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## Portage la Prairie,

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It is only within the last few years that the outside world have begun to know anything of the wonderful agricultural wealth of the immense tract of country lying between Lake Superior and the Rocky Mountains, and north of the forty-ninth parallel of latitude, and as yet the published facts regarding that vast region are far from being generally known. In bygone years people at a distance have been accustomed to regard the North-West as an almost uninhabitable country; or if a more generous view was taken by any one, it was looked upon as a country, whose settlers lived up to the waist in mud during summer and up to the waist in snow With at least nine-tenths of the European emigrants in during winter. search of farming lands and a western home, it was a settled fact, that the more southern districts of the United States were the proper fields for settlement, and the great North-West was fit only for the buffalo and That these ideas so long passed current, may, in a great measure be attributed to the inactive policy of the government, and still more so of the capitalists of Canada with regard to the subject of immigration. policy, however, is now a thing of the past, and the great provinces of the North-West are steadily finding the very best testimony as to their great 🔧 agricultural wealth in the prosperity of the settlers who have made their homes on the fertile plains.

As yet surveys of the North-West are far from complete, but the student of geography can see by a glance at the map that its area is much larger than the whole United States east of the Mississippi River, and we are much under the actual figures, when we place its area of fertile lands at over 1,500,000,000 acres. This vast area embraces more soil suitable for raising the finest grades of hard wheat, than all the balance of the continent of North America, and we are safe in stating that no other continent can enter into competition, As yet but an infinitesimal fraction of these lands are settled up, and the bulk of the settlers are clustered within the limits of the Province of Manitoba, which as yet forms the key to the whole vast This fact is wholly due to the lack of railroad transportation, a difficulty which is being steadily obviated by the rapid construction of the Canadian Pacific Railroad under the direction of the syndicate organized for that purpose. At present the European emigrant can leave his native shores and in twenty days locate himself 150 miles west of the Red River. Inside of two years from the present time he can leave Europe and in three weeks select a western home within sight of the peaks of the Rocky Mountains; and by the close of the year 1884, he can cross the British possessions of North America from Lake Superior to the Pacific coast in a three day's railroad journey. The difficulty, therefore, of lack of transportation is fast disappearing, and no country in the world has brighter prospects in the near future than the great Canadian North-West. We might also draw attention to the proposed system of ocean traffic from the southern, points on the Hudson's Bay, which would supply a shorter sea route across the Atlantic than from the city of New York. This is no doubt a route to be opened in the more distant future, but assuredly it will be opened and utilized, and will prove a valuable power in the development of the provinces of the North-The years will not be many, until the flag of almost every maritime nation in Europe will flutter in the breezes that waft across the Great Northern Bay.

In reviewing the prospects of transportation through the North-West, we must not fail to notice its advantages for inland navigation. Within its limits are the great inland seas of Lakes Winnipeg and Manitoba, whose broad bosoms seem formed by nature as bearers of traffic. Then there are the Red, the Assiniboine, the Saskatchewan and other rivers, forming in all a system for inland traffic which is unequalled by any other in the whole universe. These broad and deep streams will yet prove of immense value for purposes of navigation, and are now only waiting for the growth of industry to convert them from fishing grounds for the beaver and otter into channels of traffic and arteries of commerce. The often advanced objection of lack of transportation is therefore an imaginary one in the North-West, as nowhere has nature bestowed such advantages in that line.

We must now notice another objection, and one which of all others is

prohably the most powerful. We refer to climate.

To persuade the idler who delights to swelter in the heat of a southern sun, and subsist upon the products of a light soil, that an agriculturist's "El Dorado" exists in a country where the thermometer sometimes registers 50° below zero, is an undertaking upon which we shall not spend any of our logic. But to the thrify peasantry of Northern Europe and the natives

and settlers of Eastern America, the rigors of a North-Western winter can never fill the place of the "Raw head and bloody bones" of our childhood. The cold of the North-West is so tempered by the dryness and purity of the atmosphere, that its extremes are far from being as uncomfortable as the comparatively moderate frosts of countries with a more humid atmosphere, and it has this advantage, that it does not engender diseases of the lungs. These very colds of winter are among the greatest agricultural advantages, as they completely stop the work of vegetation, and in the spring leave a soil rested and ready for the unceasing growth, which the long days and short nights of this high latitude produce. In wheat raising it is already admitted, on all sides, that the prairies of Manitoba produce the heaviest bedry and finest quality in the world, and the experience of settlers is, that the further north they go the greater the success in wheat raising, providing the advantages in soil are equal.

The world grows wise as it grows older, and sages with sylvan longings, who talked and wrote of the beauties of lands, where eternal summer only wearied nature, and made her languid, are now looked upon by the hardheaded and practical generations of the nineteenth century as dreamers, whose poetic metaphors may be very beautiful, and furnish rich food for the imagination, but whose logic is sadly at fault, and whose ideal fancies are fast sinking beneath the horizon of practicability, comfort and true enjoyment Industry is one all-important element of human happiness, and it finds a congenial home in the bracing frosts and healthful climate of the great North-West. It is moving northward, and steering, with its blessings of peace and plenty, for the once barred limits of the Arctic Circle, even there to make happy homes and glad hearts. The poet who wrote of lave of country, and the disposition of each man to view the land of his home as the most blessed spot on earth, little knew how much truth would yet be in his beautiful couplet:

"The shivering tenant of a frigid zone Boldly proclaims that spot his own."

We must now leave the question of climate, and view the encouragement given to emigrants to settle in Manitoba and the North-West, and these are truly great. The government and people of Canada extend the invitation to all nations, colors and creeds, to come and secure a home upon their fertile and productive plains. The government offer a home and a farm almost without money and without price to the settler who locates within their limits. The Canadian Pacific Railroad Company, the Hudson's Bay Company, besides numerous other smaller corporations, offer rich lands at low figures, and on terms by which the poorest may secure a North-Westernhome, and, in an incredibly short time, rise from poverty to comfort and independence, if not to actual opulence. Such are the terms upon which the fertile lands of this vast region can be secured, and such are the rewards that await the poor and enterprising settler The capitalist also can find profitable and safe investwithin their area. ment in these lands, while in North-Western securities he can reap ich returns for his investments, and at the same time aid in the good work of To the poor man, however, it is the "land of promise." development.



Health, energy and honest labor are all he requires to secure his future comfort and irdependence. The invigorating climate stimulates the two former, and the returns for the last are too evident for it to be held back. The mechanic whom crowded labor markets and over-competition have caused to leave the land of his birth, or the down-trodden peasant, who wishes to forget the oppression of a tyrant, can each make a happy home here, and to such this vast fertile country is, in the fullest sense of the term,

### "THE GOLDEN NORTH-WEST."

To give an idea of how land may be obtained in Manitoba, we quote from section 34 of the Consolidated Dominion Land Acts, as follows:

"34. Any person, male or female, who is the sole head of a family, or any male who has attained the age of eighteen years, shall be entitled to be entered for one hundred and sixty acres, or for a less quantity of unappropriated Dominion lands, for the purpose of securing a homestead right in respect thereof.

"But a person obtaining such homestead entry shall be liable to the forfeiture thereof should he not become a bona fide occupant of the land so entered within six months of the date of entry: Provided that the Governor in Council may, in case of intending immigrants, or of persons from abroad desiring to settle near each other, vary the above rule, as may be deemed expedient, but in no case shall a longer period than twelve months be allowed between the date of entry and the due occupation of the land, and the occupant shall thenceforth continue to occupy and cultivate the same as hereinafter provided."

The person securing a homestead on the above terms, can, after a continuous residence thereon of three years, and by payment of a nominal fee to the Dominion Government, secure a deed for the same, and be owner of a home and farm, provided said party is either by birth or naturalization a subject of Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland.



In an industrial work like ours it is not necessary that we commence our historical data with the scientific calculations, or to put it a little nearer the solid truth, the awkward guessing of geologists regarding the locality we write of, nor do we feel called upon to chronicle occurences, long anterior to the days when the arts of peace and civilization were practised within the limits of such a locality. At the same time we must, at the risk of being considered sordid and impressionless, exclude all romantic ideas from our pages, and confine our labors to a record of what well judged enterprise and patient toil has accomplished for the advancement of civilization and the furthering of human comfort and happiness.

We have much need to start with such aims in connection with our labors on the city of Portage la Prairie, as it would be quite an easy matter for the most heartless of scribes to work himself into a sixpenny novel enthusiasm over the associations which still linger around the now rushing and prosperous prairie city. Its beautiful location near the bank of the Assiniboine River, with rich groves formed by nature, and the broad prairie stretching away from the river side make it a very desirable retreat for the romantic individual; and no where can he conjure up more scenes with the wily Red man. He can by the aid of a vivid imagination view the "Dog feast" and other pagan rites of the medicine man, or imagine every echo that sounds through the timber to be a war hoop of a Salteaux or Cree Indian of bygone days. Our track must be in the wake of civilization, and merely to note the changes that industry has made, when preceded by Christianity, two influences that have worked wonders both on inanimate nature and man, as he existed in this district before their advent, although their effects upon the latter may not be satisfactory to the romantic dreamer, since the baptism of the latter has washed off his war paint, while the former has reduced him to the degrading level of earning a living by honest toil. To

cling to the spirit of our work therefore, we must view vast groves only as valuable fuel resources, placid rivers as channels of traffic, and broad prairies as future grain fields, while the screech of the locomotive and the hoarse whistle of the steamboat must interest us more than the war hoop of the

aboriginal savage.

The name "Portage la Prairie" had its origin in the route of transportation that was followed in bygone days, in freighting northward. Here from the boats on the Assiniboine river all freight had to be carried or portaged by ox carts from a point near the site of the present city across twelve miles of prairie country to Portage Creek, down which it went in boats on its way to Lake Manitoba. There is therefore no romance about the origin of the name, and if we were believers in omens, we would augur well for the development of honest toil within the city.

To reach the birth of civilization in Portage la Prairie or its vicinity, Indian legends would send us back to the middle of last century, when it is asserted, a Roman Catholic Mission existed there. The wonderful energy of the missionaries of that church during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and the fact that they had often penetrated into portions of this continent, where no other white men had preceded them, lends a coloring of probability to this story; but as no traces of either a church or burying place are now to be found, it would be well to pass the story with a Scotch verdict of "Not proven." That occasional missionaries of that church and even ittinerant fur traders may have visited the spot about a hundred ago there can be little doubt, but we are justified in questioning, if any white man made a permanent location anywhere near to it for many years afterwards.

The next evidence we have of permanent signs of civilization near Portage la Prairie depends upon the statements of some old Indians still living; and it is to the effect, that many years ago two regular trading posts existed there, one owned by the Hudson's Bay Company, and the other by the North-West Fur Company; and these aged aborigines can mark out the spot where each post stood.

We do not wish to discredit the statements of these aged children of the forest and prairie, but as it is now sixty one years since these rival Companies consolidated their business, we leave it to the reader to judge, whether the statements are born of a retentive memory, or a fruitful and

accommodating imagination.

The first reliable record we have of any permanent innovation of the white race dates from the year 1854. Previous to that the whole country for many miles around the present site of the city, with the exception of some half-breed claims, was owned and occupied by a band of Salteaux Indians. That year Archdeacon Cochrane in his missionary wanderings fixed upon the site of the city as a suitable place to locate a mission station, and accordingly purchased a tract of adjacent land comprising some thousands of acres from the Saulteaux chief, for which he paid to that personage goods to the value of ten pounds sterling. A permanent footing for the white man was thus secured, and from that date the elevating influences of Christianity and industry began to spread among the formerly benighted and wandering Indians of the district.

The following year Mr. John Garrioch, the first actual settler, located in the district, and commenced farming operations on the same land which he now occupies, and which is on the outskirts of the present city. Mr. Garrioch is a native of Manitoba but of Scotch extraction, and with that plodding persistency peculiar to the land of his forefathers, he struggled with the surrounding difficulties, and considering the circumstances carried

on a system of energetic and intelligent farming.

days of his ministry.

This same year, 1855, Archdeacon Cochrane commenced the erection of a church and parsonage, and although the means of construction at his disposal were of the most primitive character, and the labor he could procure of the most unskilled description, he pushed through with and completed the undertaking, thus establishing in the prairie wilds, and among nature's most uncouth children, an altar to the God whom he served, and in whose service he spent a life of trial and privation, great difficulties and even dangers. About the same time he erected a windmill, to grind the grain of the few farmers, which gives to him not only the honor of founder of the first Christian church, but also of the first purely industrial institution of the district. The church and parsonage still stand as monuments of his zeal, energy and enterprise, but the mill has succumbed years ago to the on ward march of industrial development.

The growth of the settlement seems to have been but slow, during the first six years after the the location of the Archdeacon, and indeed its industrial progress was limited to a little more effort at farming on the part of the surrounding half-breeds. In 1861 however, the Hudson's Bay Company opened up a regular trading establishment, which added one more to the number of industrial institutions, and contributed much towards centering the trading of the roving population of the district in the settlement. The following year Mr. John McLean,, from Ontario, arrived in the settlement, and at once settled down to farming operations. He was the first settler from the east, and others from Ontario and other places beganshortly after to flock in and settle down, so that the Portage soon began to assume the appearance of a live frontier village. Matters were moving in this manner until the year 1866, when the settlement received a heavy blow by the death of the Rev. Archdeacon Cochrane. The venerable divine had. been the sun and centre of the little community in which he lived, and his whole hopes this side of the dark river were centered in the temporal and eternal welfare of those around him. His death was much regretted by all, \* and his memory is deeply revered by all the old settlers, who remember the

Previous to the establishment of a post by the Hudson's Bay Company, no regular mercantile institution existed at or near the Portage, although Mr. John Garrioch had for years previously carried on a rather irregular trade in fursand other products of the country, but with the consent of and as a kind of agent of the Company. Then as to manufacturing industries they were confined to the efforts at carpentering and other mechanical branches, which the surrounding farmers were compelled to under take for their own comfort. The only exception to this rule was Mr. Peter Henderson, who conducted a regular smith's shop for a number of years previous to 1861, and had a patronage from the country for a hundred miles

around, although its volume was very limited, a fact which was in a great-measure due to the scarcity of horses, and consequent small demand for horse shoeing. Hauling and freighting in those days were done by ox carts principally, and these were constructed after the most primitive pattern, and required very little labor from the son of Vulcan either in their building or repair. Up to 1861 therefore, the old wind mill, and Peter Henderson's smithy were the only industrial institutions in the Portage, and their ca-

pacity were fully equal to the demand.

In 1861, before the Hudson's Bay Company's stores were well started a second mercantile concern sprung into existence, and this was the general store of J. M. House, which was managed by his son Charles H. House. This establishment stood where the Ontario Bank now is, and its manager, or Charlie as he was familiarly called, soon collected quite a lively trade. He has always been noted as a social sort of fellow, and he soon made many friends. The monopoly in fur trading claimed by the Hudson's Bay Company was a sore annoyance to Charlie, however, as he always had quite a kindly feelings towards good fur, his respect for the Company's restrictions was not very profound, and he soon found himself in any amount of trouble on account of his transactions in the forbidden product, all of which were insufficient to cure him of his failing for to the present day he has a longing eye after fur.

For years after his start here Charlie's store was the only apology for a tavern in the settlement, and the accommodation it afforded was not quite as good as in some fashionable hotels. The occasional traveler who came to the village, was sure of a bed, but in the board line he had to take "pot luck," and not unfrequently the savoryness of the meal depended upon the visitor's aptitude in cooking it. It was always a certainty however that Charlie would give the best he had, and the fatigue travelers in these days had to undergo, made them less inclined to look for delicacies than in the

present day.

During the decade from 1861 to 1871 the industrial progress of Portage la Prairie was but small, as indeed was all that of Manitoba. The settlement of the surrounding country went on equally slow, and when it is taken into consideration, that the only means of transportation was by ox carts, except during the summer months, when flat boats were employed in freighting up and down the Assiniboine River.

The winter of 1869-70, and its miniature rebellion under Riel and O'Donahue, caused considerable stir in the village, although the settlers of the district were loyal almost to a man, and had other portions of the Province shown a similiar spirit, and the loyalists been supplied with a few leaders of experience and firmness, troops for the quelling of the so called rebellion would have been unnecessary, and its rash leaders would not to day have worn the bran of murderers.

With the arrival of troops in the Province in the summer of 1870, emigration to Manitoba began to increase, and among other districts that surrounding the village of Portage la Prairie shared in the benefits. By the year 1871 the appearance of the place was that of a promising village, and that year the Dominion Government appointed Charles H. House, the pioneer merchant and tavern keeper, postmaster, and a regular Dominion mail

service to and from the village was established. That fall Wm. M. Smith constructed the first steam flouring mill, a modest institution in magnitude supplied with one run of stone, but which was nevertheless a great boon to the surrounding farmers, who patronised Mr. Smith so liberally that he was compelled to run almost day and night, while his customers came to him from distances of fifty miles around the village. That fall the village could boast of nearly a dozen business institutions of every class, among which the most prominent were, the Hudson's Bay Company's stores, Smith's steam mill, Shultz & Lossee's, Charles Mair's and Charlie House's general stores, and the hotel of Anderson & Wallace, still in existence and carried on by Mr. Lyons, while Mr. Anderson, one of the original proprietors, now conducts a more recently erected house of the same class in the west end of the By the end of that year the population of the district now included in the corporation limits of Portage la Prairie was somewhere in the neighborhood of one hundred and thirty, a number which included several farmers' families, whose lands are now portions of the city site.

During this same year of 1871, the Presbyterian Church established a regular mission in the village, and services were conducted every second Sabbath by a Mr. Fletcher in the house of Mr. Kenneth McBean, and well attended. The people in and around the village were, as a rule, a church going class from the first days of settlement, a fact which may in a great measure be attributed to the zealous labors in early times of the Rev. Arch-

deacon Cochrane, and in later times of his successor,

The Archdeacon sowed the seed, and those of different denominations who have followed him have watered and nurtured it, until, in the present day, the prairie city may truly be said to contain a Christian community.

The educational resources of Portage la Prairie in 1871 were in keeping with other elevating influences, and consisted of a small school house by the side of the slough in the east end of town, which was taught by a Miss Whimster, and had an average attendance of about thirty pupils.

Such were the resources, commercially, educationally and morally, of the village of Portage la Prairie, and it seems that from that year the real progress of the place commenced. With the location of a Dominion post office in the village, a regular system of mails were established semi-weekly between this and Winnipeg, the contract for carrying the same being in the hands of Michael Blake, who is now one of the city's prominent and public spirited men, and one who has closely identified his interests with hers for many

years, and has done much for building up her industries.

The tide of emigration was now started into Manitoha, and in his regular trips from Winnipeg Mr. Blake brought numerous passengers by his mail waggon, some of whom settled in and around the village, while others made their way further westward. With only this means of regular travel, however, the growth of the village was slow, and the progress up to 1876 was very limited. In 1875 the river flat boat system was succeeded by the first regular line of steamboats, which was established by the North-West Navigation Company. In June of that year the Prince Rupert, a boat of about 120 tons burden, made the pioneer trip up from Winnipeg, and her success soon caused her owners to establish a regular system, and in later years to put on other and larger boats, and eventually to make trips to

points much farther up the river. Merchants were from this year able to secure freights with much less difficulty, and at much smaller charges for transportation. The consequence was that the following year several merchants located in the village, who have since done much to build up its

trade, and increase its commercial importance.

In the fall of 1876 the business institutions of Portage la Prairie numbered nearly twenty, and included a few mercantile concerns who did an amount of business which seemed wonderfully large for a frontier village. The most prominent institutions in the village were the Hudson's Bay stores, the general stores of Messrs. C. Garland, Campbell & Mirlette, Raslay, T. & W. Miller's hardware store, Smith's steam mill, Hossach's and Longden's blacksmith's shops, in the east end, John Ross, in the west end, Alex. Anderson's hotel, in the west end, and Blake & Lyon's, in the east end. For some years previous to this Aesculapius had a disciple in the village in the person of Dr. Cowan, and that year he got a brother "Saw Bones" through the location of Dr. D. M. Hagarty. Both of these gentlemen are still living in Portage la Prairie, and can tell some wonderful stories of the hardships of a medical practice in those days. Dr. Cowan is still in practice, but Dr. Hagarty now devotes his whole attention to real estate matters, and is one of the heaviest operators in that line in the city.

Some of the store buildings erected during 1875-6 were quite extensive in dimensions, and their outside appearance, and the heavy stocks they carried, would have been creditable to a town of five times the size of the Portage, and the volume of business some of them did would make the

merchants of older towns open their eyes wide.

At this time two regular church organizations were at work in the village, a well managed and well attended school was in operation, and the

population of the place was a little under 300 people.

The year 1876 was altogether of high hopes among the residents of the Portage, and towards its close quite a marked increase in its population and business importance was noticeable. That year the construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway from Selkirk was under operation, and it was a settled fact, that the westward route of that great connecting link between the provinces of the Dominion, would run through the village. These hopes were long deferred, and in some points reached disappointment. nevertheless the business men of Portage la Prairie never lost faith in the great future of their town, and indeed the amount of business which came to them from the far West, was sufficient earnest of the town's future prosperity, to make living in hope quite a profitable state of affairs. following year we find two flouring mills in operation, with a capacity of nearly 200 barrels in 24 hours, and it seems, that this capacity was tested to its utmost during a considerable portion of the year. Some talk was also heard about the establishment of a steam planing mill, an institution which was set in full blast, during 1879 by Mr. McIlvanie and which with the successive additions which have since been made to it by its founder, now ranks among the leading industries of the city, and is a monument to the enterprise of its proprietor. Other minor industries were floated during the same year, and the frontier like appearance of the old village of Portage, was fast giving place to that of a town where modern

ideas of progress were in the ascendancy. The local ideas of building took a solid turn in 1880, when Mr. Lockey started the Portage brick yards, and the demand for his manufactures was so great, that for the following year

he made arrangements to materialy increase his capacity.

During these four years of progress dating from 1876, the moral and intellectual advantages were also advancing. During the winter of 1876 the Methodist church established regular services in the town, and we find that the educational machinery of the city was made more complete, and enlarged as the demands of the locality increased. Other social arrangements were advancing with equal steadiness, and in January the voice of the people of the town was first clearly heard, when Mr. Thomas Collins issued the first number of the Marquette Review, the pioneer newspaper published in Manitoba west of Winnipeg. This journal has been one of the most powerful aids in the building up of the Portage, and from its advent, its proprietor has not failed to stand firmly for the best interests of the city. At first it was a weekly journal, but since August 1881 it has been issued semi-weekly, and will soon have a daily issue.

While this activity was going on among the citizens of Portage la Prairie, the work of railway construction westward from Winnipeg was going on in a slow and tantalizing manner under the supervision of the Dominion The work of construction had commenced from Winnipeg Government. eastward as early as June, 1875, and in the fall of 1880 the constructors had only reached Rat Portage a distance of 112 miles, and the ballasting of a great portion of that was far from being finished, while the line westward to Portage la Prairie was not finished and opened for traffic until about the close of the same year, and the line for the greater portion of that distance was liable to a prolonged block during the winter season after comparatively slight snow storms. Notwithstanding all these disadvantages the prosperity of Portage la Prairie up to the close of 1880 was very marked, and with the spring of 1881 we find it a rushing town of some 800 inhabitants; with over 60 business institutions in full blast, including two banks, four mills, two lumber and two flour, and all with steam power; one brick yard, and numerous other smaller manufacturing concerns; while the mercantile departments was represented by over 25 different concerns, and that individual the real estate man, who seems as indispensable in a new and prosperous country as the lightning rod pedlar, had at least half a dozen representatives who carried on a regular business in that line, not to mention the numerous kerb-stone speculators who dealt and dickered in property as their means would allow them.

At this time four denominations of Christians had regular organizations in the town, and, two others were holding occasional services, with a view

to establishing Church organizations.

With the opening of the spring of 1881 the rapid growth of Portage la Prairie commenced. When it became known in May that the Canada Pacific had passed into the hands of a syndicate, who would lose no time in pushing the work to a completion, Portage la Prairie became a point where a great amount of speculative attention was centerd. Its location on the narrow strip of land between the Assiniboine River, and Lake Manitoba, across which all railway lines from the lower Red River Valley, whose objective

points are in the Great North-West, must pass, gave it immense advantages geographically, and the fact that around no other town in Manitoba can a richer agricultural country be found, settled the question of its becoming a City of importance in the near future. That the Canadian Pacific Railway Syndicate recognized these advantages may be inferred by the rapidity with which they constructed the Air Line between this City and Winnipeg, thus materialty shortening the route between the two cities, and making a track as proof against snow blocks, as engineering skill can secure. energy in extending westward from the City, reaching Brandon a distance 78 miles by August, and the amount of other grading done before the close of the year convinced the most incredulous, that Portage la Prairie was in a few years to become a prominent City on the great main line of railway, which will connect the Atlantic and Pacific Provinces of the Canadian Dominion.

In May, 1881, a third bank was established in the Portage, and business institutions of every class multiplied with a magic rapidity, and were only limited by the building resources of the city. In August the "Tribune," a second newspaper, was established, and has since made its ap-Landed property of every description, in and around pearance weekly. the city, has since the spring of 1881 risen rapidly in price, and many old settlers, who had for many years struggled along at farming, suddenly found their lands becoming of great value, and themselves lifted from comparative poverty to opulence. The limits of the town increased with its business growth, and its wide streets are giving evidences of soon becombusy thoroughfares.

During all this rapid advance in business and the value of property, the population of the Portage has been making equally rapid strides. the close of 1881 over 2,700 souls resided within the city limits, and now, with the opening of the spring of 1882, the number cannot be under 3,500.

We have thus followed the thread of the industrial growth of Portage la Prairie, and shown some of the leading influences that have been employed in that work, but to reach these more fully, and to give a comprehensive idea of her full business machinery, and, in fact, reach in detail the different powers that have contributed to her exceptional industrial growth, we shall now add sketches, historical and statistical, of the different firms, individuals and institutions carrying on business in the city at present. A complete summary of the business done in the different lines of trade, and a review of the churches, schools and other institutions for the moral, intellectual and spiritual welfare of the population of the city, we will give in the concluding pages of this work, together with an outline of the city's industrial prospects.

In enumerating these we should commence with the fundamental branch of the city'e business, namely, the financial; but as in all towns of the North-West, finance, real estate and insurance are so inseperably con-

nected, we shall be compelled to take all these under one heading.

### FINANCE, REAL ESTATE AND INSURANCE.

In selecting an institution with which to commence this department, we cannot do better than fix upon the pioneer banking house of Portage la Prairie, and, in fact, west of Winnipeg, namely,

### GORDON, ADAMSON & CO.

The banking establishment conducted by this firm is one of the -pillars, of Portage la Prairie's financial structure, an lone of the leading auxillary forces in her industrial development. It was established in June 1880, and from its advent proved of incalculable value to the business men of the city. The firm do a general banking business, and have a house in Winnipeg also. They are agents in this city for the Bank of Montreal, and the Imperial Bank of Canada, have connections all over the Dominion, and in the leading cities of the United States, and for regular correspondents in the city of New York Messrs. Jessup, Paton & Co.

The business here is under the management of Mr. W. T. Adamson, and by his able guidance it has had a career of prosperity, and proved an institution of great local usefulness. The bank offices are located on

Main Street.

### ; campbell, hay & boddy.

In a growing city like-Portage la Prairie it is necessary in each branch of business, that some individuals or firms take a leading place, and form a system upon which the transactions of less prominent firms or persons must be carried out. Such a position is occupied by the above firm in connection with the real estate business of this city, and besides being leaders, they are also one of the oldest established firms in their line within its limits.

Messrs. Campbell, Hay & Boddy do a business in every class of real estate, both town and farm, the greater portion of which they do on their own account. They have been established since December 1880, and during the year 1881 the volume of their transactions represent an aggregate value of about \$1,000,000. Besides a large business in town propery, they handle heavily in farm lands, and are prepared to supply extensive tracts for colonization purposes, or a home and farm for the settler of limited means. They also do a large business in loans, both for themselves and other capitalists, and in this branch they are a power in the development and building up of the surrounding country.

The transactions of this firm from their start have been carried out in such a manner as to secure the confidence of all with whom they have done business, and their example in this line has done much to keep the real estate business of Portage la Prairie on a solid footing.

Their commodious offices are located on Saskatchewan Avenue, and recently they have opened a branch at Emerson, where they are fast build-

ing up an extensive business

### ALLOWAY, CHAMPION & MOWAT.

The addition of this firm to the banking interests of Portage la Prairie dates from May, 1881, and, with the addition of Mr. Mowat, its composition is the same as the banking house of Alloway & Champion, of Winnipeg. The business done in this city is a general one, and is under the management of Mr. Arthur Mowat, and his able supervision has made it one of the most successful banking concerns in Manitoba.

The firm have for regular correspondents in the cities of Eastern Canada and New York the Merchants Bank of Canada, and in Chicago the First National Bank, while they have business transactions extending over a great

portion of the American continent and Great Britain.

At present the bank offices are located on Main Street, near King, but with the opening of spring the firm will commence the erection of a fine brick structure on the corner of Main Street and Saskatchewan Avenue, which will be one of the architectural ornaments of Portage la Prairie.

### STEVENS & FERRIS.

The advent of this firm in the real estate business in Portage la Prairie dates from December 15th, 1881, although Mr. Ferris has been nine years a resident of this district; and for three years carried on the business of importer of and dealer in horses in this city, and, until a few weeks ago, was known as the genial "mine host" of the Lorne House.

Mr. Stevens is a capitalist from Chatham, Ontario, who has left his eastern home and brought his capital and business ability to the work of

building up and developing this city and country.

The firm buy and sell any and every class of real estate, either in town or country, and are fast collecting a very extensive business in this line. While they swing heavy transactions in town property, they give special attention to farm lands, and can supply a large tract of land for colonization purposes, or a home and farm on easy terms of payment for the agricultural immigrant of limited means. Their commodious offices on Main Street show every sign of business activity, and there can be no doubt but their success will be great, and there local usefullness equally so.

Intimately connected with, but still distinct and separate from this

firm, is that of

### ferris & rosser.

The second partner in this firm is General T. L. Rosser, formerly chief engineer of the Canada Pacific Railway, and its business is confined to the

sale of real estate in the town of Dewinton, 49 miles west of Portage la Prairie, a point where the Canadian Pacific and Dewinton and Manitoba Central railways intersect each other, and where there must necessarily be, in the near future, a live, prosperous and populous town, seeing it is located in one of the finest grain raising districts of the North-West; and last year, notwithstanding the difficulty of want of transportation, which no longer exists, over 150,000 bushels of grain were marketed at this point. Lots in this town the firm offer on the most advantageous terms, and their efforts will doubtless soon make it a live western town.

### ONTARIO BANK.

This is the only chartered Bank doing business in Portage la Prairie, and the establishment of a branch here dates from July 1880, since which time it has been under the management of Mr. Edward Porter, and has

proved a genuine financial boom to the business men of the City.

The Ontario Bank has its headquarters in Toronto, and branches in all the leading towns and cities of Ontario, and in Winnipeg, in this Province, while for regular correspondents in the United States it has the Merchants National Bank of St Paul, the Bank of Montreal in Chicago and New York, and the Tremont National Bank in Boston. Its business is a general banking one, and its capital is \$3,000,000. The offices here are located corner of Garland and Portage Sts.

The existence of a branch of this great banking corporation in Portage la Prairie is a proof of the City's importance, and it will aid greatly in

building up and solidifying her industrial structure.

### BELAMY & HARLEY.

This firm is acknowledged as one of the first in Portage la Prairie in the real estate branch of business, although they only commenced as agents in that line in January 1st, 1882. Mr. Belamy however was for two years connected with the farm machinery business of this City, while Mr. Harley has been four years in Manitoba, and knows well the merits of real estate throughout the Province.

The firm buy and sell every class of real estate, and have from the opening of their present office on Main Street, stepped into a leading

position in their line.

While Messrs. Belamy & Harley are aiding much by their real estate business in the settling up and development of this Province, they are also agents for several old and reliable fire and life insurance companies, and in this branch they assist greatly in solidifying the industrial structure of this new county.

### LIPSETT & ROBINSON.

Real estate is certainly the primary branch of business in all our growing western towns, and the push and enterprise of such firms as the above help to keep it an all important one.

Messrs. Lipsett & Robinson do a business in every class of Manitoba real estate, both town and farm, improved and unimproved, and they extend their operations widely over the Province, although they only date their advent in this city from December, 1881. Their offices on Main Street give every evidence of a prosperous business being done, and in many other respects the firm give promise of maintaining a leading position in their line. While they do a heavy business in town property, they give special attention to improved farms, and have at all times a selection of these for sale on terms to suit farmers of limited means. They also loan funds on real estate mortgages for individual capitalists, and thus aid materially in the development of the surrrounding country.

Mr. F. W. Lipsett, the senior member of this firm, is well known as one of Manitoba's most public spirited citizens, and, at present, he is a

member of the Provincial Parliament

### W. R. BLACK.

This gentleman is a barrister and attorney-at-law, and practices in the different courts of the Province, but, like many other professional gentlemen in Manitoba, he has caught the fever of enterprise so prevalent throughout the Province, and is intimately connected with the work of developing this new and promising country.

Mr. Black does quite an extensive business in every class of town and farm real estate, but acts only for clients or on his own account. He has been established in this city since January, 1881, and has advanced into a

place among the most enterprising residents of Portage la Prairie.

Besides real estate business, Mr. Black acts as agent for eastern capitalists, and invests the funds of such in Manitoba real estate securities, thus rendering valuable assistance in the building up of this promising country. For the Canada Permanent Investment Association alone he placed some \$30,000 in mortgage loans during the last few months of 1881.

### JOHN HOGG.

While not directly connected with any strictly industrial pursuit, this gentleman is nevertheless a valuable auxillary in the work of building up

and developing this city and country.

Mr. Hogg is a notary public, conveyancer and commissioner for taking affidavits, and carries on the business of real estate broker, loan and insurance agent. In real estate he buys and sells town or farm property of every description, and is at all times prepared to look after the best interests of parties making investments in that line. Although his duties as conveyancer and commissioner are extensive, he gives personal attention to real estate affairs and has built up a valuable business in that department, and the area of his operations reaches pretty well over Manitoba. Infloan business he is agent for the London and Canadian Loan and Investment Co., and the Manitoba & North-West Loan Co., and is thus a medium for supplying capital for the building up of this new country. In insurance he represents

several reliable fire and life companies, and is steadily working up a good business in that branch. His offices are centrally located on Main Street.

### HAY & MACKENZIE.

Among the recent additions to the real estate interests of Portage la Prairie none are of more value to the city than the above named firm! Their advent in business dates only from February 1st 1882, but their experience in the country and thorough knowledge of the merits of all classes of real estate in the province gives them unusal advantages in their business, and augurs well for their success. Mr. Hay the senior of the firm has been a resident of Manitoba for 20 years, and is at present a member of the provincial parliament. He has been connected with numerous schemes for building up the trade of Manitoba, and in the coming summer will make a valuable addition to the industries of Portage la Prairie in the shape of a foundry and machine shop, and as he is a thorough practical machinist, the success of his new undertaking is a foregone conclusion.

Besides operations in every class of real estate, town and farm, the firm are prepared to attend to the management of estates, and otherwise look after the interests of absent property owners. They are also agents for the "Sovereign" Fire Insurance Company, and thus contribute towards solidifying the industrial structure of the locality, which they are doing so much to build up. They are at present located in the Brook Block on Main Street, where they have comfortable and commodious offices.

### P. VANCES GEORGEN.

Like many other gentlemen, the subject of this sketch, although a barrister and attorney at law, has somewhat relaxed his efforts, adjusting differences between man and man, and launched with a good will into the work of building up and developing this City and surrounding country.

For his clients, and on his own account Mr. Georgen does quite an extensive real estate business, and buys and sells every class of town and farm property improved or unimproved, and as a supplement to this branch he acts as agent for numerous individual capitalists in the placing of funds in Manitoba real estate securities, and thus securing large amounts of capital for the enriching and developing of this growing country. He is more directly connected with the industrial interests of this City, as agent for a number of the most solid and reliable fire and life insurance companies, while in his collection branch he is a very lubricator of the wheels of business, and is of great value to the commercial community. His commodious offices are centrally located on Main Street, and his business record extends back to the spring of '78, since which time his career has been one of great local usefulness, and at present he holds the very responsible position of City solicitor.

### P. D. MCKINNON & CO.

The partners of this firm are Messrs. P. D. McKinnon, formerly principal of the Portage la Prairie schools, and D. McDonald. who until recently

was engaged in the farm machinery business in this City. The firm organization dates from February 1882, and their business is real estate, insurance and loan agents. In the first branch they buy and sell town and farm property improved and unimproved, on commission and on their own account, and attend to all the minor details connected with a property commission business. In the loan department they represent the Hamilton Provident Loan Society; and for that corporation are prepared to loan money on every class of improved real estate. In the insurance line they represent a number of the most reliable American and British fire and life Companies, and are prepared to insure every class of legitimate risks. Thus in their real estate and loan branches they are doing much for the building up of this City, and surrounding country, while in their insurance business they are cementing and solidifying the business system of the country.

The firm have commodious offices on Main Street, near Saskatche-

wan Avenue.

### FARQUHAR MCLEAN.

In this gentleman we have one of the oldest settlers in Portage la Prairie, his arrival here dating back to 1862, when he came here as an employee of the Hudson's Bay Company. For the last eight or nine years Mr. McLean has done more or less in real estate, and in December, 1881 he opened an office and confined his business to that branch. He owned, and still own; a large portion of the town site, and the ground on which the Court House now stands was a gift from him to the county. He still has hundreds of town lots for sale, and offers them on the most advantageous terms to purchasers. In farm lands he does considerable business, and extends his operations widely over the Province, but in these, as in town property, he is purely a dealer, and buys and sells only on his own account.

During his long residence in this city Mr. McLean has done much for its upbuilding, and now holds a prominent place among her prosperous and public spirited citizens. His offices are located on King Street, opposite

the Queen's Hotel.

### STRANGE & MOWAT.

This firm established themselves as regular dealers and agents in real estate in November, 1881, and opened their present commodious offices on Main Street. although they had been operating in that branch of business for four months previously. Both partners are men of energy and good business ability, and they have already made clear their claim to a place among the city's most enterprising men, and at the same time worked their way into an extensive business in every class of Manitoba real estate.

Mr. Mowat has had a three years residence in Manitoba: and, consequently, knows well the merits of every class of real estate in the province, while the straightforward manner in which the transactions of the firm have been carried out has earned for them the confidence of all with whom they have done business.

### DRAD. M. HAGARTY.

Like many other professional gentlemen the subject of this sketch has gotten thoroughly imbued with the spirit of enterprise now so general throughout Manitoba, and has pretty nearly followed the advice of the Bard

of Avon by throwing physic to the dogs.

Dr. Hagarty practiced medicine in this locality a number of years age, when settlers were few, and a large proportion of his patients were Indians. In the beginning of 1881 he launched into real estate business, and since that time has gradually ceased to practice medicine. He is owner of a large amount of town property in this city, and is at any time prepared to sell on liberal terms, especially to intending settlers, while his transactions in farm lands extend widely over Manitoba and the North-West. He has recently constructed the Grand Pacific Hotel, one of the finest houses in the province, and in many other ways he is giving evidence of being one of the most public spirited citizens of Portage la Prairie. He has his offices in the Grand Pacific Hotel Block, at the corner of Saskatchewan Avenue and Depot Street, and the management of the details of his business is entrusted to his brother Mr. C. E. Hagarty, who recently moved here from the state of Indiana, and is fast making many friends in this his new home.

### BOURNE & CO.

The partners of this firm are G. W. Bourne and T. Todington, and their advent in business in this town dates from December 1881. They are real estate agents, and buy and sell every class of property in their line. In town lots they do a thriving business, while in improved farms and prairie lands they are prepared to suit purchasers, be they wealthy speculators, or emigrants of limited means in search of a North-Western home. Both partners are young men, possessed of plenty of energy and enterprise, and they are steadily building up a valuable business, while they are also doing much for furthering the best interests of Portage la Prairie. As a supplement to their real estate business they are now making arrangements to place funds for eastern capitalists in Manitoba mortgage loans, and thus add very much to the value of their efforts for the development of this country.

Their offices are located at the corner of Main and Duke Streets.

### JOHN BOULTBEE.

This gentleman is a barrister and attorney at law, and practises in the courts of Manitoba. In his professional capacity he fills a useful place in the City's business machinery, but as industrial recorders, we have more to do with his transactions in real estate and loans in which branches he gives valuable aid in building up and developing Portage la Prairie and the surrounding country.

In real estate Mr. Boultbee does business on his own account only, and his transactions include numerous sales of valuable town property, besides farm lands in different parts of Manitoba. In the loan department Mr.

Boultbee is agent for the Landed Banking and Loan Company of Hamilton, Ontario, a corporation with a capital of \$1,000,000, and whose funds he loans on real estate securities throughout the North-West.

It will thus be seen that Mr. Boultbee, although a professional gentleman in the strictest sense of the term, is nevertheless a valuable auxillary in the work of developing this new and prosperous country, thus showing the spirit of enterprise which is now so universal in Manitoba, and embraces gentlemen of almost every profession.

Mr. Boultbee has recently moved into new and commodious offices on

the street floor on Main Street, near Saskatchewan Avenue.

### DAVIDSON, MCPHERSON & CO.

This firm are among the most recent additions to the real estate interests of Portage la Prairie, their start in business dating from January last. They are located in Doige's Block, on Main Street, where they have commodious offices, and in which they conduct a flourishing and rapidly increasing business. They buy and sell either town property or farm lands, and are steadily widening the area of their operations over the Province. Already they have shown plenty of enterprise and energy, and given indications that they will hold their position among the live business men of this growing City. They do business on their own account and on commission, and are fast working their way into prosperity and popularity.

### J. A. LITTLE.

For over four years this gentleman was connected with the manufacturing interests of this city, in the carriage and waggon making, although he has for five years done more or less in real estate business, and since March, 1881, he has confined his operations to that branch. He handles every class of property from prairie lands for emigrants to improved farms and city property, and does a business exceeded in volume by few in his line in Manitoba, the value of his weekly sales ranging from \$50,000 to \$100,000. The crowded state of his offices at the corner of Main and Countess Streets during business hours gives evidence of the magnitude of his business, and proclaim him one of the heaviest operators in the province.

Mr. Little's long residence in this locality, and consequent comprehensive knowledge of the value of every class of real estate gives him unusual advantages in his business, and makes him one of the most reliable men for intending investors in real estate to consult.

### FOOTE & WOODSIDE.

The offices of this firm are located in the Brook Block, on Main Street, where the carry on a regular real estate and land commission business. They buy and sell both town and farm property on commission, and on their own account, and are prepared to attend to everything connected with the management of estates for absent property owners. They com-

menced business here on February 1st, 1882, and they will doubtless prove a valuable addition to the real estate interests of this city. They handle property in several different towns of Manitoba, and in farm lands their operations extend pretty well over the province. They have started in with the full tide of prosperity on the flow, and with their attention to business, and comprehensive knowledge of the same, there can be no doubt about their future success.

Mr. H. J. Foote is a licensed and experienced auctioneer, will add that branch to the firm's operations, and will give prompt attention to the sale of either real estate or personal property. They have recently secured the agencies of several first-class fire and life insurance companies, and have now completed arrangements for placing funds for capitalists in North-Western mortgage loans.

### W.\M. SMITH.

At present we must include this gentleman among the real estate men of this city, although few, if any, within her limits have accomplished so much and labored so long for the industrial upbuilding of Portage la Prairie.

Mr. Smith has been a resident of Manitoba for nineteen years, and in 1871 he erected the first steam flouring mill in Portage la Prairie, which had one run of stone, and a capacity of about forty barrels in twenty-four hours. In 1872 he added another run of stone, and in 1873 he purchased the mill which had been erected the previous year by Logan, Marple & Co., which had two run of stone. In 1875 he added another run of stone, and for years after that date his trade extended for a radius of 100 miles around the then village of Portage la Prairie. This mill was conducted with success until the fall of 1881, when it was destroyed by fire. Since this date he has carried on a wholesale flour, feed and grain business, and is also one of the city's heavy operators in real estate, although he does business only on his own account. His office and stores are located on Saskatchewan Avenue, near Main Street, but during the coming summer he will erect a large flouring mill, to work on the roller principle, at a cost of not less than \$25,000, and once more take his place among the leading millers of the North-West.

### MCLEARN & GRAHAM.

The offices of this firm are located in Doige's Block, on Main Street, where they carry on business as real estate dealers and agents. They buy and sell both town and farm lands, and, although only established in business in January last, they are fast making their way into a position among the leading firms in their line in this city. They are but recent importations into Portage la Prairie, but they have come with ample capital to identify their interests with hers, invest their funds in property in and around her and stake their chances of success in business on the prosperity of this new country. Both partners give close personal attention to business; and have shown that they will secure success, if patient energy and well judged enterprise are elements of the same. Such additions to a city are of great value, and Messrs. McLearn & Graham have doubtless a long career of local usefulness before them.

### CONACHER & BAKER.

With the opening of 1882 this firm launched into the real estate business in Portage la Prairie and from their very outset they have given unmistakeable signs of adding much to the life and activity of that branch of business in the city. They do quite an extensive business in the purchase and sale of town property both for themselves and on commission, but they give special attention to the sale of farm lands, improved and unimproved, and are rapidly extending their operations in this department over the entire province. They are prepared to sell in large tracts to suit the wealthy speculator, or supply a home and farm on terms that will suit the farmer immigrant of limited means.

The firm are also insurance agents, and represent some old and reliable fire and life companies. Thus aiding in making safe and solid the commercial system of this growing town. Their offices are centrally located on

Main Street.

### COLTER, JOLLY & CO.

The gentlemen composing this firm are recent importations from Ontario, and they have come to this city to settle, and assist in building up the interests of this new country. Their advent in business here dates from February 1st 1882, and they now carry on a general real estate business, and buy and sell every class of town and farm real estate, either on commission or on their own account. They also conduct a regular property agency, and are prepared at all times to attend to the interests of absent property holders in any way, or furnish reliable information on real estate matters to intending purchasers at a distance, and render valuable aid to such in securing profitable investments. Their offices are located in the Brook Block on Main Street. Their intentions are to shortly add the branch of fire and life insurance, in which line they have a good opening in this city.

### BOYLE & WASHINGTON.

The offices of this firm are located on Saskatchewan Avenue, where they carry on the business of real estate and loan agents and have been established since August, I881. In their real estate branch they buy and sell either town or tarm property, improved or unimproved on their own account and on commission, and have an extensive business, with transactions reaching over a great portion of the Province of Manitoba.

In loan business the firm are agents for the Manitoba Investment Association, and in that capacity they have placed funds extensively in real estate mortgages, and have thus rendered valuable service in the development

of this new country.

Both partners of this firm give personal supervision to their business, and have made for themselves records among the most valued citizens of Portage la Prairie.

### KENNEDY & GARLAND.

Both of these gentlemen have been residents of Portage la Prairie for two years, although they date their advent in the real estate business from January, 1881, previous to which they had only been connected with that branch by occasional transactions. They now buy and sell every class of Manitoba real estate both on their own account and on commission, and are fast gliding into an extensive and profitable business. They have commodious offices on Main Street, near Countess, furnished with maps, charts, and every other necessary guide to profitable investment, This firm is only infantine in age, but by no means so in vigor, and they have already given unmistable signs of maintaining prominence in their branch of business, and aiding much in the building up of this City and surrounding country.

### FINLEY & GRAHAM.

This firm carry on a real estate business at their office on Main Street, and are fast building up quite a valuable and extensive business in that line. They buy and sell either city, town or farm property, improved or unimproved, and do business both on their own account and on commission. They have only recently embarked in this department, but both partners are well known men of reliability, and Mr. Finley has built up a record in the mercantile business, as one of the most enterprising merchants in Portage la Prairie. The firm bring to their aid ample capital and first class business ability, and there can be no doubt, but they are destined to have success and advance to prominence in the real estate business.

As a grain buyer, while a member of the firm of Finley & Lapp, Mr. Finley has also made a good record, so that in many ways he has been a useful man in this city, and few have done more for her industrial

upbuilding.

### CAUGHILL AND FERRIS.

This firm date their united interest in the real estate business since July, 1881, when they began to operate together. Since that time they have handled over \$100,000 worth of city and farm lands personally, also considerable on commission. They at all times hold from \$50,000 to \$100,000 of property, and at the present time own over \$60,000 worth of the choicest town lots in this city. It is their boast that they do not hold property out of the market, but are always willing to dispose of the same to any one who wishes it more than they do. The establishment of this firm in this city is opportune at a time when the tide of prosperity is on the swell, and solid institutions are the most valuable additions that can be made to her business machinery. In the rapid building up of this city Messrs. Caughill & Ferris will doubtless prove a potent power.

### HARVEY & MCDONALD.

The gentlemen comprising this firm have been united in business since Feb. 1st, 1882, when they began to deal in real estate together. They handle city and tarm land both for themselves and on commission, and have, since their advent, transacted considerable business and taken some heavy deals personally. They hold Winnipeg, Brandon, Mountain City, Minnedosa and Portage property for sale, besides farm lands in large and small tracts to suit purchaser.

These gentlemen are persons of large experience, thoroughly acquainted with the relative value of property, and well known to the citizens of this

new country.

Mr. Geo. Harvey, the senior member, manages the business of the firm, and from his many years of travel and connections in business in this and other countries, has gained a fund of information and knowledge which will greatly aid him in successfully conducting the affairs of this firm. Any person desiring to buy or sell real estate would do well to either see or address them at this city.

### OGLETREE & SMITH.

Avenue, and are engaged in the business of real estate agents. In town property they confine their transactions principally to this city, but in farm lands their transactions extend widely over the province, and they do business both on commission and on their own account. The firms organization dates from February 1st 1882, but Mr. Smith has been for years dealing in local real estate, and Mr. Ogletree has been a resident of this place for thirteen years. At present they have some hundreds of lots for sale in this city, and they have recently placed the Ogletree estate on the market, which comprises some of the finest residence sites in or around the city. Both partners know well the merits of all real estate around here, and are well able to look after the best interests of purchasers of the same. Their business career has opened with exceptional success, and they are doubtless destined to have great prosperity in the future.

The firm have recently completed arrangement to place loans throughout Manitoba for capitalists, and in this branch they will add a valuable

supplement to their real estate business.

### MANUFACTURING INTERESTS.

In the foregoing sketches we have detailed pretty fully the financial and real estate machinery of Portage la Praire, and we shall now enter upon the branch of business, which is strictly industrial, namely, manufactures. These are as yet not very numerous or extensive in the Portage, as the trade demanded during the last two years in merchandise alone has given full employment to the energy of her business men. Now, however, the attention of a great many manufacturers are centred in the city, and her industrial growth during the present year will be much greater than heretofore, and in all probability something unprecedented. While therefore the present manufactures of Portage la Prairie are sketched on the following pages, the industrial importance of the city can only be fully comprehended when we add the institutions now in course of erection, or about to be established. These will be found further on in one work, under the heading of "Prospective Industries," and when calculated in connection with her present producing institutions, will give a more correct idea of the city's manufactures in the immediate future.

### SAMUEL MCILVANIE.

In our record of the industrial growth of Portage la Prairie, the subject of this sketch deserves the first place, owing to the extensive part he has taken in the upbuilding and solidifying of this city by establishing manufacturing institutions which give employment to labor and concentrate trade at this point. In 1878 Mr. McIlvanie built the pioneer planing mill and established the first lumber yard in the Portage, and in fact the only one west of Winnipeg, which was known as the Marquette Planing Mills and Lumber Yards. After the first season he closed the mill for two years, but early in 1881 he put in new machinery and largely increased his capacity to manufacture doors, sash, blinds, flooring, ceiling, and, in fact, every article necessary to the construction of any building whatever. He also buys large quantities of lumber from the markets at Minneapolis, Winni peg, Selkirk and Rat Portage, and his yards here are well stocked at all times with about 1,000,000 feet of lumber, which he sells both at wholesale and retail. He also operates a branch at Brandon, where Mr. Wm. J. Mather is his authorized agent, and still another at Gladstone, with Mr. D. Budge as his representative. These are thriving branches, and are valuable auxiliaries to his business in this city. Mr. McIlvanie is also the sole patentee and manufacturer of the dove-tailed grooved lumber for plastering on, an invention which is highly appreciated by those who have used it, and is

being generally adopted.

His new planing mill on the C. P. R., in close proximity to the depot, is 48 x 80 feet in area, with two flats, and gives employment to thirty hands. Mr. McIlvanie, ever alive to the growing demands of this new country, has now in course of construction a new industry in the shape of a PAPER MILL, which, when completed, will be the only one in the province, and a much needed institution. The dimensions of this new mill are 36 x 100 feet in area, two story, and will have the capacity of turning out four tons of paper per day, and give employment to about 30 hands.

The paper produced at this mill will consist of card board, tar paper, wrapping paper, also paper for building purposes. These works will be in operation by July the 1st, and will be herald as one of the additional advantages of Postar la Prairie. The machinery used is of the latest improved make, and imported to this city. These works, when completed, will cost fully \$25,000. The planing mill and paper mill will be operated from a combined engine room, which is detached from the paper mill, and contains two 60 horse power boilers, with a 25 horse power engine for the planing mill and a 60 horse power engine for the paper mill, thus lessening the danger of fire. The C. P. R. have consented to put in a siding past the mills early in the spring. The general offices of these combined works are located at the corner of Tupper and Pacific Avenues, and the general supervision of the combined institutions is under the personal management of Mr. McIlvanie, who has eminently succeeded in all his undertakings in this city, and now holds not less than \$75,000.00 worth of real estate, including some fine business blocks.

The foregoing statements are sufficient evidence of the magnitude and importance of these manufacturing industries, their relative value to the city and public generally, and when we consider by whom they are owned and operated, their success is a foregone conclusion.

### R. B. HILL.

The establishment conducted by this gentleman deserves a recognized

position among the leading manufacturing industries of this place.

In June, 1881, Mr. Hill opened up the business of carriage builder and blacksmith in a small way, in a room 14 x 14, but his fast increasing trade soon demanded that he erect more commodious quarters, which he did during the past fall. We now find him occupying a building 24 x 70 feet in area, two story, with storage room connected, 18 x 30, and giving employment to eight skilled mechanics, and early, in the coming spring he contemplates making large additions, increasing the number of hands employed and his capacity to accommodate the public.

During the past season Mr. Hill has turned out 25 set of sleighs and 15 cutters, besides doing a large amount of repairing. At present he has 40 buckboards about completed, and during the coming summer will turn out over one hundred wheeled vehicles, in the shape of buckboards, car-

riages, phaetons, and all kinds of light work. He will also manufacture for next winter's trade 150 set sleighs and 50 cutters, so as to have a supply on hand when the winter trade sets in, and ship to the west to dealers. Such an establishment, conducted by such a live, industrious, practical man, who understands every detail of the construction of a vehicle, is of vast benefit to the public, and well deserves the success which has been and will be his.

### EDWARD MCDONALD.

This gentleman is proprietor of the Marquette flouring mills, an institution of vast benefit to the citizens of this new country, and one which aids materially in swelling the volume of manufacture for Portage la Prairie.

The Marquette flouring mills are fitted up with three set of stone and a twenty-five horse power boiler and engine, has the capacity of producing 45 barrels of fine flour per day, also 350 bushels of chop or feed during the same period. The flour of this mill has a wide reputation, and Mr. McDonald has a market for all he can possibly produce, with the western dealers. He also does considerable local custom work, for the farmers surrounding this point who appreciate the value of a good establishment of this kind. In connection with the manufacture of flour this gentleman carries on the business of dealer in feed and grain of all kinds. During the past year he has handled over 70,000 bushel of wheat and 20,000 bushel of oats, and is at present the authorized representative of the Ogilvie Milling Co. of Winnipeg, for the purchase of grain for their use at that point, and in Ontario. Those who deal with this gentleman always feel assured that they are receiving the highest market cash price for their products, and in this manner Mr. McDonald has built up his extended trade. In conducting his business employment is given to nine hands, and the general supervision of the whole establishment is looked after by himself.

### LYNE & BANKS.

These gentlemen conduct a leading industry in Portage la Prairie. They are extensive contractors and builders, also manufacturers of, and dealers in all kinds of lumber, shingles, lath, doors, sash, and in fact every article necessary for the construction of the rich man's palace or poor man's cottage. They contract for all classes of buildings from the foundation up, and in this department of their business give employment to forty (40) skilled mechanics. Their planing mill and factory is located on Garland St., and comprises a building  $50 \times 80$  feet in area, with two flats; also a storage shed  $16 \times 60$ ft., and in this department employment is given to twenty hands. They carry an extensive stock of about \$50,000 worth of lumber, and are at all times prepared to meet the demands of the public. During the present winter they are cutting over 1600 cords of wood from their own place. Messrs. Lyne & Banks succeeded the last of 1881 to the firm of Green & Lyne, and with their advent new life was added, and the coming season will find them making many additions, and largely increasing their capacity as the rapid settlement of this new country and their growing trade demands.

stands among the heaviest employers of skilled labor in this city and deserve a recognized position among the first industrial establishments of Portage la Prairie.

### HOSSACK AND MCKENZIE

No institutions do more in solidifying and building up a City than manufacturing establishments, which give employment to men who in turn support families and educate children. The firm which forms the subject of this sketch are extensively engaged in the manufacturing of carriages, sleighs and cutters. The business was originally established by Mr. Hossack, who began as general blacksmith in a small way four years ago; but in 1879 he took as his partner Mr. McKenzie, who is a practical worker in wood and carriage maker, and they then established their present business, which has grown until they now occupy premises on Main St. 30 x 40 ft. in area, with additional wood working shops 20 x 40 attached, which gives them altogether 4000 square feet of floor room, which is too small to accommodate their rapidly increasing trade, therefore they contemplate erecting more commodious quarters at an early date. They give employment to twelve hands, and during the past year they have turned out 20 cutters, and 60 pair of sleighs, and during the enduing season they will build 30 carriages and buggies. Their works are run with steam power, and the trade they have built up extends generally over the North-West.

They also do a large trade in repairing and blacksmithing, and their business will grow and increase with the development of the country.

### A. GOLDIE & CO.

The business of this firm is that of brewers and malsters. The establishment owned and operated by them was built late in 1879, and has since that time aided in supplying the liquid wants of the public. This brewery is operated by steam and has the capacity of brewing twenty-five barrels of ale per day, to which they will shortly add the brewing of porter.

The premises occupied give a combined building 60 x 120 feet in area, with commodious cellars and rooms for the damping, heating and sprouting of barley, from which the malt is made. The barley of the North-West is far famed for its richness, and the ale produced from the same is correspondingly excellent in quality.

Messrs. A. Goldie & Co., have succeeded in building up quite an extended reputation for their production and ship to all the leading points throughout Manitoba and the North-West.

They also enjoy a large City trade, which is ever increasing with the growth of the City.

The works are superintended by Mr. A. Goldie, a practical brewer of seven years experience, and under his careful management their-trade will grow and increase, and they will remain among the leading brewers and malsters of the new North-West.

### MCKENZIE & CAMPBELL.

The business of this firm was established in 1877, by Mr. H. S. McKenzie, the senior member of the present firm, who is the oldest manufacturer and dealer in his line in this city. In 1880 he was joined by Mr.J. W. Camp-

They do an extensive business as manufacturers and dealers in harness, saddles, bridles, blankets, whips and saddlery hardware, and have a trade which extends pretty generally over the entire North-west, as they frequently receive orders for goods which go to the base of the Rocky Moun-

In conducting their business they occupy a building 16 x 54 ft. in area, two story, on Main St., and give employment to six skilled hands, besides personally superintending the work. In their stock will always be found from \$3,000 to \$4,000 worth of the articles manufactured and dealt in by them, and that they give entire satisfaction is evident from ther extended patronage and the fact that they are both competent practical mechanics, as well as successful business men.

Messrs. McKenzie & Campbell have been eminently successful heretofore, and their business will doubtless grow and increase with the development of the country and themselves remain among the leading manufacturers and dealers in the North-West.

### SAMUEL POCKETT.

The business of this gentleman is one of the oid industries of Portage la Prairie, his establishment here dating back to the year 1875. He is a manufacturer of sleighs, and pumps, and has quite extensive shops on Saskatchewan Avenue in the west end of the town. He manufactures the stock lift pump, and has secured quite a wide popularity for his manufacture in this branch. In sleighs he has been equally successful, and during the winter season he is pushed hard to supply orders, and gives employment to five hands.

### J. P. YOUNG.

In this gentleman we have the skilled mechanic and practical business His trade is that of general blacksmith, and his business gives employment to two hands. Mr. Young came to this city in 1879 and established his present industry. He saw from the first that Portage la Prairie, from its natural position and advantages, surrounded by plenty of timber, touched by a navigable river, and the farming districts unsurpassed by any in this famed country, was destined to become a city of some magnitude and importance, therefore we find him operating liberally in real estate, in which he has been quite successful and added not a few thousands to his earnings. He holds at the present time some very desirable city property and town lots. Thus we find that in this new country the truly deserving and industrious man is daily reaping a rich reward for his push and energy.

### WM. J. MILLS.

This gentleman is proprietor of the West End blacksmith and carriage works, which he established in 1880, and has successfully operated ever since and built up a large trade. His business gives employment to five men who are skilled mechanics and thoroughly understand the manufacturing and repairing of sleighs, cutters and carriages, as well as practical horse-shoers.

During the past season Mr. Mills has built 20 set sleighs and 10 cutters. and has done a large amount of horse-shoeing and repairing, and for the ensuing year is prepared to turn out 50 vehicles. Such an establishment as this is indispensable to the public, and the good trade enjoyed by Mr. Mills is sufficient evidence of the appreciation of his works.

### JOHN WATSON.

This gentleman carries on the business of blacksmithing and general repair work, and at his shops at the corner of Dufferin Street and Broadway he is prepared to attend to the repair of every class of light and heavy machinery. He is himself a practical machinist of many years experience, and as a rule he employs about three men. He belongs to that class of thrifty and industrious mechanics, who, in a quiet and unostentatious way give material aid in building up a city's industries.

### PORTAGE BRICK YARDS.

The increased demand for building material which sprung up in Portage la Prairie with the opening of 1880, proved that some local means was absolutely necessary, and in the summer of that year Mr. W. Lochey started the abovenamed yards. In 1881 he was joined by Mr. Smith, and the present firm's name was assumed, and since then the success of the institution has been beyond the most sanguine calculations. In 1881 the firm turned out about 500,000 brick, which did not supply anything like the local demand, and they have accordingly made arrangements for 1882 to manufacture over 3,000,000, a quantity which will all be required, if we may judge from the fact that about half of this product are already contracted for before they are made.

Messrs. Lochey & Smith make a brick of a yellowish grey color, which possesses unusual strength and toughness, and have a fine appearance in a building. Their yards are of great value to the city and will prove a power in her building up. Their success in the past has been exceptional, and the growing demand for their manufactures and their energy combined make it a certainty that in the future they will be equally prosperous.

J. & T. J. MATHER.—These gentlemen are fashionable merchant tailors.

They date their advent in Portage since early in 1880. Their trade gives employment to from 12 to 14 hands and the stock carried is as extensive and varied as that found in similar establishments in larger cities. They

have in course of construction new premises on Main Street, opposite their present site, 16 x 60 ft., in area, two story, which will enable them to largely increase their capacity to furnish the public with clothing.

V. STRAUBE.—This gentleman conducts the necessary industry of manufacturer of tinware and copperware, in conjunction with which he carries on the business of hardware merchant.

Mr. Straube dates his advent in Portage la Prairie in May 1881. He enjoys 25 years experience in his business and is by trade a lock-smith and understands thoroughly the intricate workings of delicate machinery, especially of safe locks &c.

STALKER & HUTCHINGS.—In 1878 the business of this firm was established in this city by the senior member, who was at that time the sole partner, and who conducts a similar house both wholesale and retail in Winnipeg. They are manufacturers of and dealers in harness saddles, bridles, whips, robes, blankets and saddlery hardware. In their shops in this city eight practical harness makers are employed. Their establishment in this city is under the sole supervision of Mr. Stalker.

JOHN HACKETT.—This gentleman is proprietor of the "Western Bakery," where the staff of life is daily produced. Mr. Hackett is the pioneer baker of this city, having established business here in 1879 when what is now prosperous Portage had hardly assumed the shape of a village. He has succeeded in building up a trade which necessitates the use of fifteen barrels of flour per week in the dull, and twenty in the busy season.

EDMUND MORTON,—The subject of this sketch established in the west end of Portage la Prairie April, 1881, the manufacture of harness, saddles and whips. He does a general business in his line, and his trade gives employment to two hands, who are skilled mechanics.

J. L. Johnston.—Early in 1882, the subject of this sketch established the business of the manufacture of boots and shoes, to which he added a stock of ladies' and children's foot wear. He also makes a specialty of the manufacture of all classes and kinds of men's boots and shoes.



While the foregoing sketches are all we can include under the head of manufacturers, there are neverthless several mercantile institutions in the Portage, who have extensive manufacturing branches, some of them employing as many as twenty hands. Such we shall be compelled to place under the head of mercantile, but we shall at the same time be careful to

show at length their manufacturing departments and resources.

We find it beyond our reach to divide the mercantile business of Portage la Prairie into wholesale and retail institutions, owing to the fact that the several houses who are doing a jobbing business, are in a state of transition from retail to wholesale, and while the latter is fast increasing with them, the former still forms too valuable a portion of their transactions to allow of its being dispensed with. We shall therefore take the whole mercantile interests of the city under one heading, and take care to note individually the houses which do more or less of a wholesale business.

### H. S. PATERSON.

From September 1879 until January 1st 1882, this gentleman was a partner of the firm of Paterson & McLenaghan, but at the latter date he purchased Mr. McLenaghan's interest, and is now in sole control of his business. He carries on a general store on Main Street near the Marquetteflour mills, and carries regularly a stock value for about \$30,000, which comprises dry-goods, clothing boots and shoes, groceries, crockery and china wares, glass and wooden wares, besides many other minor lines. From his advent in business here, Mr. Paterson has had a prosperous run, and has now a trade extending for a radius of 50 miles around this city, and in a westerly direction over 100 miles. He aims to do only a family trade, but considerable wholesale patronage come to him unsolicited, and is steadily incrersing of late. There can be little doubt, but as the city grows in population and importance this class of business will increase, and his establishment will be eventually a purely wholesale concern. His present premises comprise two stories and basement of an area of 22 by 65 feet, and from their crowded state it is evident that he will soon have to find more commodious quarters.

There are few men in Portage la Prairie who are doing so much for the extension of the city's commerce as Mr. Paterson, and his business is a

prominent stone in her industrial structure.

#### T, & W. MILLER.

The establishment of this firm is the pioneer hardware concern of Portage la Prairie, and has a history extending back to 1876, since which time its proprietors have been steadily building up an extensive business. They handle shelf and heavy hardware, stoves, tin, sheet-iron and copper wares, and have a manufacturing branch in connection with the latter wares, which gives employment to some four mechanics, while in their stores they employ four clerks during the summer season. Their premises are located at the corner of Main and Pertage Streets, and comprise street floor and second story, of an area of 25 x 80 ft,, while the stock carried by them is value for over \$20,000. Their business operations have for years extended for 100 miles westward, and for about 50 miles around the city in other directions, and to keep pace with the growing demands from the West, they have recently established a branch house at Brandon, where they carry a stock value for at least \$15,000.

The career of this firm since their location here has been one of plodding energy and well-judged enterprise, and while they have been building up a valuable business, they have been doing a great work in the extension of the commerce of this city, and their business is now one of the pillars of its industrial structure.

#### GARLAND & CO.

The death of the founder of this business on the 7th of January, 1882. was a heavy loss to the commercial interests of Portage la Prairie, and brought to a close a career of business usefulness, which finds few equals in the Province of Manitoba. In 1874 Mr. Garland established himself in business in the then village of Portage la Prairie, and carried on a general store. His start was on a small scale compared with the immense business institution which now stands a monument to his energy, perseverance and well-judged enterprise. For years this business has been the leading mercantile concern of the city, and in magnitude will now compare favorably with leading houses in much older and larger cities. Its branches include dry goods, groceries, boots and shoes, crockery, stone, glass and woodenwares, and a manufacturing branch in merchant tailoring and gents' fur-In this latter department some 20 hands are employed, while in the stores the business requires the services of nine clerks. The usual value of stock carried in this house is from \$40,000 to \$45,000; its business operations extend for over 100 miles west of Portage la Prairie, and the volume of businees done during 1881 was somewhere in the neighbrhood of \$150,-000. This includes considerable wholesale trade, which comes unsolicited, besides a retail business surpassed in extent probably by no house in Mani-

This establishment is located at the corner of Main and Portage Streets and includes two stories of an area of  $50 \times 60$  feet, besides warehouse 30 by, 70 feet in dimensions.

Altogether this business has been one of the main powers in the commercial development of Portage la Prairie, and is now a very corner stone of her industrial structure.



The present partners of the firm are Mrs. Garland, widow of the deceased. Mr. H. J. LeRov, the commercial manager, who has for years assisted Mr. Garland in his management, and Mr. W. L. Lyall, who superintends the manufacturing department. Under this regime the business cannot but be as successful in the future, as it has been in the past.

#### MARQUETTE DRUG STORE.

We have in this establishment the pioneer drug store of Portage la In the fall of 1878 the business was established by Lakeman & Co., Dr. M. Macklin the present head being the silent partner. In June 1879 Mr. Lakeman severed his connection with the concern, and since that date the firms name has been Macklin & Co. Dr. Macklin the managing partner is a physician with one of the most extensive practices in Manitoba, and the practical superintendancy of the store falls upon Mr. H. J. Fraser, a young man whose energy and business courtesy has done much to extend The volume of business has increased much of late, and the variety of goods handled includes drugs, patent medicines, druggists sundries, combs, brushes and other fancy goods. The store is located on Main Street next door to Gordon, Adamson & Co's, bank, and is neatly and tastefully fitted up and farmished.

#### TAYLOR & EADIE.

The store of this firm is centrally located in the Lorne House Block on Main Street, where they carry on the busines of dealers in dry-goods and groceries, and have been established since February 1881. Both partners of the firm give personal supervision to their business, are practical and experienced men in their line, and as a natural consequence have rapidly built up a valuable family trade in this city and surroundings, and reaching over 50 miles westward. Their premises comprise their store room 22 x 55 feet in area, with extensive warehouse room in the rear, and contain a stock of goods both heavy and well selected. Their thorough knowledge of their business enables them to anticipate the wants of this locality, and there can be no doubt but in this rapidly developing country, their success in the future will be even more marked than in the past.

This gentleman is located on Man Street, near the Marquette flour mills. where he carries on the business of dealer in dry goods, groceries, clothing, boots and shoes, crockery and glass, stone and wooden wares, and has quite an extensive establishment, comprising street floor and basement of an erea of 22 x 60 feet, and containing a large and varied stock of the above ennumerated goods.

Mr. McNab is an experienced dry goods man, and knows well the wants of this country in his line. He is but a recent addition to the number of the city's business men, as he only joined Mr. D. Ramer, his former partner, in August, 1881. Recently he has purchased that gentleman's in-

terest in the business, and is now in sole control of it.

Already Mr. McNab has a large and wide-spread business, and there can be no doubt of his success in the future, and that he will render valuable service in the building up and extension of the commerce of Portage la Prairie.

#### JAMES ANDREW.

This gentleman is located on Main Street, where he carries on the business of dealer in watches, jewelry, clocks, silver and plated goods, and has been established since September, 1879. He carries a stock of goods, value for several thousand dollars, which includes a variety of goods in his line, which would do credit to an establishment in a much larger city.

Mr. Andrew is a practical watchmaker and jeweler, and gives personal attention to all/kinds of repairs. He has a patronage which comes to him from a radius of fifty miles around this city, and from three times that distance in a westerly direction, and he has built up an enviable reputation for turning out first-class workmanship. He has made many friends in this city, and is now numbered among her prominent and enterprising business men.

#### J. B. PEWTRESS.

This gentleman conducts the Post' Office store, which he opened up during November, 1880, and has eminently succeeded in building up an extension patronage.

He carries a fine line of staple and fancy groceries and enjoys a large City family trade as well as that of the surrounding farmers and places west of this. In another department of his business he deals in books, stationery, daily and weekly foreign and local publications. With him may be found the leading dailies of Eastern Canada, and the U. S., also the daily free press and Marquette review, containing the latest telegrams, and received upon the day of publication.

He also carries all kinds of legal blank forms, ledgers, day-books, and the adopted School books, and a complete line of stationery sundries. Mr. Pewtress has been identified with this country for the past four years and has built up quite an extended acquaintance which is greatly to his advantage in business, as all who know him like to deal with him.

In conducting his business, employment is given to four hands, and the volume of business transacted for the past year amounts to fully \$35,000. Such figures are covincing evidence of the publics appreciation of a well regulated establishment. And as the country develops and the City grows larger, this gentleman will increase his capacity and trade, and continue to hold a leading position among the first merchants.

#### H. J. WOODSIDE.

This gentleman came to Portage la Prairie early in November, 1880 and established himself as repairer of watches, jewelry, &c. He was possessed of but little capital, but with a determination to succeed by his own

plodding industry and straightforward dealing, which is better than gold. He soon began to add a limited stock, and has steadily continued to increase the same and his capacity to accommodate the public, until he now carries a very carefully selected assortment of gold and silver watches, the standard clocks of American manufacture, and a large variety of all classes of jewelry and silverware. His stock is valued at from \$4,000 to \$5,000. In conducting his jewelry establishment he gives employment to two practical skilled workmen, and makes a specialty of the repairing of all classes of jewelry and watches.

Mr. Woodside is one of those live wide awake men who are always willing to turn an honest dollar in any channel whatever which will be of benefit to the public. He is a practical telegraph operator, and was for some time the superintendent of the Portage, Westbourne & Northwestern Telegraph Co., and agent at this place of the Great Northwest Telegraph Line, but recently gave these up to accept the position of Superintendent of the Bell Telephone in this city, of which they now have forty in success-He is also agent for the Allen Ocean Steamship Co., Hall's Safe Co., Canadian Pacific Express, McLean & Sinclair's Northwestern Express; also Crown timber agent, commissioner for taking affidavits and issuing marriage licenses. Mr. Woodside gives his combined businesses his personal supervision, and by working early and late is able to act a prominent part in accommodating the public in this new country. In the present real estate boom he has caught the spirit of the times and has, by making careful investments, succeeded in gaining about \$10,000 worth of the same, and now holds some of the most desirable lots in the city. Such men greatly facilitate commerce and industry, and are truly deserving of their success.

#### D. CAMERON.

This gentleman conducts a wholsale and retail trade in groceries, provisions, flour and feed, on Main St., in this city which he established early Mr. Cameron, owing to the class of staple articles carried and his manner of doing business, has succeeded in building up an extensive patronage and a business which gives employment to four hands, and is steadily increasing. He enjoys considerable wholesale trade with dealers west of this, also extensive farmers. emigration and surveying parties, and the volume of business done by him during the past year swells by many thousands the commerce of Portage la Prairie. His stock is large and carefully selected, and completely packs his premises which are 18 x 60 and is valued at from \$5,000 to \$6,000. Such men as Mr. Cameron who thoroughly understand the wants of the trade in this country aid materially in accommodating the public and are necessary factors to the commerce of a prosperous country. He will doubtless increase his trade and facilities to accommodate patrons with the growth of the city and country, and continue to remain one of the leading merchants of Portage la Prairie.

#### RICHARDSON & WHITE.

The business of this firm was established over two years ago by McGreggor & Ferris, the present firm, however, succeeded to the same in

November 1880, and have since that time largely increased their trade and facilities to accommodate the public. They are wholesale and rétail butchers and dealers in fresh and salt meats, game, pourtry, fruits and vegetables. They have a large city trade, also sell considerable meat west of this and to smaller dealers by wholesale. Their business gives employment to six hands and their market is constantly crowded with the choicest of meats, wild game and fowls.

They use two beeves, 6 sheep, 2 hogs, and a large number of other animals and fowls per day, and are frequently obliged to increase that amount. They deliver all orders promptly to any part of the city, and the amount of business transacted during the past year swell materially the commerce of

Portage la Prairie.

Me Richardson & White are practical butchers as well as thorough business men, and will doubtless retain the leading position in their line.

#### A. HARRIS, SONS & Co.

Among the prominent influences which have contributed toward building up and developing Manitoba this firm has acted a prominent part. They are extensively engaged in the manufacture of agricultural implements at Brantford, Ont., with a general distributing house at Winnipeg and prominent branches throughout the North-west. Their establishment in this city is probably the most extensive of any of their branches, and was opened up in 1879, under the able management of Mr.R.W.Rossiter, who has succeeded in building it up to its present magnitude. During the past season this live branch has disposed of 76 Osborne, combined wire and twine binders, 300 to 400 J. I. Case plows, ten steam and horse power Minnesota Chief threshing outfits, 400 sets harrows, 150 Brantfort and Osborne mowers, 30 Empire seeders, 300 waggons and a large number of sleighs. For the coming season they are fully warranted in estimating their sales at about double that of the past year.

Their warehouse in this place is 26 x 60 ft., with two flats and in conducting their extensive trade employment is given to ten agents during the busy season, and a large part of the machinery used by the thrifty farmers surrounding Portage is secured from this establishment, where the producer of the golden grain is always certain to find the implements best adopted to their use with latest improvements, and at terms which are consistent with a

legitimate and responsible business.

#### J. F. ROWE.

This gentleman conducts the very necessary business of photographer which he established in this City late in 1881, and owing to his thorough artistic skill in producing the best of work, has succeeded in building up a large patronage.

Mr. Rowe makes all styles and sizes of pictures, and makes a specialty of enlarging photo's from the small card to the large wall picture. In his

offices on Main St. will be found some fine samples of his work.

He has the advantage of eleven years practical experience in his business, and also one of the finest galleries, with all that could be desired in the shape of light, in the North-West.

. Mr. Rowe exhibits some very fine views which he has taken heretotofore, and will doubtless during the coming season drive a thriving trade in that line in this new country where there is so much of beauty to

be represented by the true artist...

He also deals in albums and fancy frames, and conducts throughout a very tasty and neat establishment which compares very favorably with similar institutions in large Eastern Cities.

#### THOMSON BROS.

These gentlemen conduct the business of booksellers, stationery and fancy goods dealers. They opened up in this city early in July, 1881, in a small way, but, owing to the rapid increase in their trade, have been compelled to enlarge their capacity and increase their stock, until they now conduct a business in every way three times the size of that of their commencement. In their stock will be found all the leading local and foreign daily and weekly publications, also the standard magazines and periodicals of Canada, America and England, law forms, the adopted school books, ledgers and blank books for all purposes. Also a large assortment of wall papers, and that line of fancy goods and notions usually found in a well regulated establishment of this kind.

Messrs. Thomson Bros are young business men of practical experience, having served a term of years in the employ of the leading booksellers and stationery dealers in the Eastern Provinces. Thus we find that men of experience, with plenty of vim and life, are establishing the commercial houses

of this city.

Messrs. Thomson Bros have begun business in this city with the full tide of prosperity, and through their own industry will doubtless build up a good institution and remain numbered among Portage la Prairie's leading business men.

### CAMPBELL & FULTON.

The business of this firm is that of importers of pianos, organs and furniture. They also make a specialty of the framing of pictures and under-

taking.

Messrs. Campbell & Fulton date their advent in business in this city from 1880, when they opened up the pioneer furniture establishment. The business of this firm gives employment to six men, and their ever increasing trade necessitates their largely increasing their capacity to accommodate patrons. The premises now occupied are 26 x 132 feet, two story, and are stocked with a large and varied selection of common and fine furniture—anything from the elegant parlor set, with pictures for the walls, to the ordinary necessary kitchen outfit.

In the sale of the Dominion Organ and Piano Company's instruments, they drive quite a thriving trade. They buy these celebrated organs and pianos for cash, and secure the large cash discount, therefore they are able to sell these instruments at much less figures than mere agents, and the purchaser receives the benefit by dealing with them. During the past few months they have disposed of 20 organs and a number of pianos, and are warranted in estimating their trade in organs for the present year at about 100, and in pianos about 10. These instruments need no comment on by us as their true worth is well know to all musicians who appreciate a superior instrument. Mr. Campbell is a practical cabinet maker of many years experience, and superintends the putting up of all their turniture which they receive in the knockdown and put together in their shops here. This fact is sufficient evidence that furniture purchased from them will not go to pieces in a short time. Mr. Fulton, the other member of the firm, has been identified with Portage la Prairie for a number of years, and has been one of the most successful operators in the present real estate boom. He will, early the coming season, erect a brick business block on Saskatchewan Avenue, at the corner of Main Street, 103 x 80 feet in area, with four flats. Thus we find he is aiding materially in building up the city as well as taking an active part in her commerce and public affairs.

#### W. R. YOUNG.

This gentleman conducts the only exclusively dry goods establishment in the City, which he opened up late in 1881. He carries a very carefully selected stock of ready made clothing, gents-furnishing of every kind, and makes a specialty of the finer grades of ladie's dress goods. His assortment is very complete, and comprises every article which would be found in such an establishment in a much larger City, with prices which correspond favorably to those in the Eastern markets.

He carries a stock of about \$8,000 to \$10,000, and has quite an extensive patronage, both in this City and surrounding country, as well as with the transient trade.

Mr. Young has been identified with this new country for the past ten years, and was formerly engaged in business at other points in Manitoba, through his years of experience in supplying the wants of patrons he has learned to know the goods best adopted to their use and what they want, therefore in his establishment customers will find just what they are looking for, with quality, style, and price to suit.

Mr. Young has been quite successful in the present real estate boom, and has turned over considerable property, and still holds some very desirable town lots. It is his boast that he holds no property out of the market, but is always willing to sell the same at a fair advance allowing the purchaser to realize a profit therefrom also.

He has been eminently successful in his undertakings heretofore, and will remain among the leading merchants of Portage la Prairie.

#### LOGAN & HENDERSON.

These gentlemen conduct on Main St. a general store, which they opened up in October, 1881. Their present premises are 22 x 44 feet, two story; but early in the coming spring they will enter a commodious building, 22 x 80 feet in area, with 3 flats, on the corner of Saskatchewan Avenue and Main St., which when completed will be one of the finest business blocks in the City, and add greatly to the commercial value of this place. They will stock their new rooms with about \$30,000 worth of goods, and carry on an extensive business, both as wholesale and retail dealers.

During the past few months this live firm have been seized with the spirit of real estate speculation, and have been successful in clearing about \$25,000 out of their various investments, and at the present time hold \$50,000 worth of desirable City property, town lots, and farm lands. Mr. Logan has been in this country for the past 12 years and is well known to the citizens of this new North-West. He built the first mill, in the West end of Portage, and has taken an active part in public and private enterprises.

Mr. Henderson, the junior member of the firm, is a late importation from Ontario, and though a young man, is a thorough practical business fellow.

Messrs. Logan & Henderson with ample capital, a thorough knowledge of their business, and one of the best business sites in the City, will doubtless remain among the leading merchants of Portage la Prairie.

### w. & a. laurens.

These gentlemen established business in this pushing city in October 1881 and have succeeded in building up a good patronage in comparatively a short time. They are importers of and dealers in dry-goods, groceries, notions, clothing, boots and shoes, and in fact every article usually kept in a well regulated general store will be found with them at prices as low as are consistent with a legitimate business.

Upon entering into business here they built for themselves a new store building 24 x 36 ft. in area, two story, but their large trade requires the making of extensive additions at an early date.

Messrs. W. & A. Laurens are practical business men of fourteen years experience and under their careful management their trade will grow and increase with the rapid growth of the country and setting up of the city, and themselves remain among Portage la Prairies leading merchants.

#### HAGGERT BROS.

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Nothing forms a better index to the prosperity of a city and the richness of the surrounding agricultural districts than the establishment of large branch houses at that place by extensive eastern manufacturers.

The institution which the subject of this sketch represents is the General North-Western Depot and distributing point for two of the largest manufacturing concerns which Eastern Canada contains, one is Haggert Bro's. of Brampton, the other Haggert & Cochrane of St. Thomas. They

established this branch in 1879 and have succeeded in building up a trade which reaches throughout the entire North-West, with branches at Rapid City, Minnedosa, Brandon, Big Plain or Dewinton, Grand Valley and Birtle. During the past year this live firm has disposed of about 13 complete steam thresher outfits and 9 horsepower, 100 St. Paul combined twine and cord binders, 100 Star Reapers, 150 Meadow Lark Mowers, 100 Tiger self-dumping hay rakes, 200 Truss Rod waggons, 300 Prairie Queen breakers and Highlander cross plows, 300 sleighs, also a large number of power and hand cutting boxes and land rollers. Such figures are sufficient. evidence of the magnitude and importance of this establishment, and the eactive part it is taking in the development of this country by supplying the necessary labor and time saving machinery, and for the coming year they are fully warranted in estimating their sales at about double of that of the year 1881. In conducting their business, employment is given to seven salaried men and about 20 commissioned agents.

The management of this entire business is conducted by Mr. Chas. M. Caughill, a gentleman of many years experience and large acquaintance in this line, who labors diligently to advance the best interests of his firm and

accommodate the industrious farmers of this famed country.

#### GEORGE CRAIG.

The establishment of this gentleman is one of the most recent, and at! the same time one of the most valuable additions made to the mercantile

interests of Portage la Prairie.

Mr. Craig opened out on Main St. near Saskatchewan Avenue, in the beginning of February, where he carries on business as a dealer in dry goods, clothing, groceries, boots and shoes, and gent's furnishings. To his mercantile business he adds a merchant tailoring branch, and already he has sufficient business in that line to employ about 15 hands, and his orders are steadily increasing in volume, He carries a large and varied stock of every class of goods in his line, and he has been fortunate in securing a fine storeroom 22 x 60 feet in area, with a commodious workshop 22 x 30 feet in the rear of the same. He has commenced business at a time when the full prosperity is on the flow, and when there was a fine opening for business such as his. With these advantages added to the fact, that he is an experienced business man, his sucress is certain, and he must take his place among the prominent merchants of Portage la Prairie.

#### HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

This great Company carry on quite an extensive business at their store in the west end of the City, where they have had a post established since 1861. They still do an extensive fur trade at this point, and have also a branch of this post at Totogan. They do a general store business in dry goods, groceries, and other goods, and get patronage from the district around the City for a radius of 25 miles. They usually carry a stock value for about \$40,000, and their volume of business for 1881, was somewhat over \$80,000. of rar For some years the business has been under the management of Mr. E. Gigot, who enjoys a wide popularity, and during his present absence in Europe, his place is filled by Mr. Wm. Clark, who has made many friends in the Portage, and has in no way injured the Company's business here.

#### MEDICAL HALL.

This institution was established in November 1881 by Wright & Co., and has proved of great value to the city. The business is managed by Mr. J. E. Wright, jr., an experienced druggist, and under his able control

has made rapid progress since its establishment.

The Medical Hall is located on Main Street in commodious premises, and its business includes drugs, patent medicines, druggists sundries, and fancy goods, and in all these branches Messrs Wright & Co. are doing a lively trade. In the dispensing department they have a valuable and fast increasing patronage, and they possess the fullest confidence of the medical profession in this city.

Once the fine brick structure now in course of construction at the corner of Main Street and Saskatchewan Avenue, is completed Messrs. Wright & Co. will move into much more commodious premises in the same, and will then have one of the best locations in this city, and be enabled to make their success in the future even more marked than it has been in the

past.

#### NEWMAN & FINNERTY.

This firm carry on a general store at the corner of Saskatchewan Avenue and Third Street, where they do an extensive family business in dry-goods, clothing, groceries and the numerous other classes of goods usually kept in a general store. They carry a stock value for about \$25,000 and have spacious premises, comprising two stories and basement of an area 25 by 60 feet. In addition to their general stores the firm have two warehouses, one where they handle grain, and the other they utilize for their fur business. Their trade in the different branches extends around the city for a distance of 75 miles, and from their advent here in July 1880 it has been a prosperous and steadily increasing one.

Their success is in part explained by the fact that both partners are men of many years experience in Manitoba, have been connected with the commerce of the province since their first arrival, and for several years previous to their start here, they held responsible positions with the Hudson's

Bay Company.

FRED. S. MOULE.

In August, 1881, Mr. Moule came from the city of London, Ontario, and embarked in business here as a dealer in groceries, provisions, crockery and glassware, and, since his advent here, he has had a prosperous and fast increasing trade. His business is a family one, and comes from the city and surrounding country, and is steadily increasing in volume and widening in area. He has at present commodious premises on Main Street, including his storeroom 24 x 55 feet in area, and ample warehouse in the rear of same.

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#### PURVIS & CO.

The advent of this firm in Portage la Prairie dates from December, 1880, when Mr. Purvis, the managing partner, came from Chicago, Illinois, with a view of launching into the grain trade, a business he had been connected with for years in the great lakeside metropolis of the States. At that time the firm commenced operations in grain, groceries and dry goods, and from their start have done a prosperous business. Of grain they have handled from the crop of 1881 over 25,000 bushels, and before May 1st, they will in all probability double these figures. They also do quite an extensive business in field and garden seeds. Their stores and warehouses are located on Main Street.

#### CARREY & CO.

The business of this firm was established in 1879, by Messrs./Rigney &

Carrey, who were succeeded by the present firm in Sept., 1881.

They are extensive dealers in fine wines and liquors, staple and fancy groceries, and conduct a business which extends over Western Manitoba, both wholesale and retail. The stock carried is probably the most extensive in their line west of Winnipeg, and consists of about \$8,000 worth of carefully selected goods. Sufficient evidence of the class of goods carried and the appreciation of the public of a well regulated and properly conducted establishment of this kind lies in the fact that their patronage per annum amounts to about \$40,000.

Messrs. Carrey & Co. enjoy considerable wholesale trade with dealers west, and as the country settles up they will drift more and more into this class of business. Their premises now on Main St., are 25 x 60 ft in area, with two flats and basement, but their rapidly increasing trade demands their removing into more commodious quarters to accommodate their many customers and enable them to carry a larger stock. Their business at this place is superintended by Mr. J. O. Reilly, the resident member of the firm, and under his good management it will grow and increase with the settling up of the city and country, and retain a leading position among the prominent mercantile establishments of the Portage.

## j. & w. henderson.

Mr. J. Henderson, the senior member of this firm is extensively engaged in the hardware business, and operates houses at Barrie and Collingwood, Ont., as well as a representative establishment in this city, in partnership with Mr. W. Henderson, who superintends their business in Portage, and who is a practical gentleman of many years experience. Their store-room and warehouse is 22 x 100 ft, in area, with two flats, part of the second flat being used in the manufacture of tinware, and the first floor is thoroughly stocked with a careful selection of heavy and shelf hardware, bar-iron, steel, paints, glass also stoves, tinware, coal and machine oils.

Messrs. J. & W. Henderson established their house in July 1881, and owing to the extensive and varied stock carried, have succeeded in building

up an enviable trade in a very short time. They also do some jobbing with smaller dealers West. Their business will doubtless grow and increase with the development of the country, and their house remain among leading mercantile establishments of this place.

#### JOHN C. BALL.

This gentleman conducts on Main St., an entensive general store which he established early in 1881. His stock is carefully selected with special reference to the wants of the inhabitants of this new country, and from his long experience and connection in business in the new North-west, having spent the last ten years in Manitoba, he is fully able to know and anticipate the wants of the public and at all times be prepared to meet his patrons demands

The premises occupied by Mr. Ball are 22 x 50 ft. in area, and are well stocked with dry goods, notions, boots, shoes and groceries. This gentleman is the authorized representative and agent of the celebrated Li-Quor Tea Co., who have gained such an extended reputation for their teas owing to the fine class of goods sold, also the novel method of distributing the standard literature of the present age. Any person who purchases at one time from Mr. Ball 3 lbs. of this company's tea, secures at the same time the priviledge of selecting a handsome bound book—the works of Dickens, Scott or any of the standard authors of fiction, history, or sacred literature. We would recommend that any person desiring good books for nothing to patronize this gentleman, or at least examine into the matter for themselves.—Mr. Ball has been very successful in his real estate transactions for himself as well as for others who have requested him to make deals for them.

#### B. MEEK.

This gentleman established business in this pushing city in June, 1881, and has succeeded in building up a large business in comparatively a short time, by handling good goods at reasonable prices. He is importer of and dealer in ready-made clothing, dry goods, hats, caps and groceries. He makes a specialty and keeps a fine assortment of gents' furnishings.

Mr. Meek enjoys a large city family trade, and the goods handled are selected with especial reference to the wants of the citizens of this new country. He has the great advantage in his business of being an experienced merchant of 16 years connection in his line. Mr. Meek occupies a fine storeroom 22 x 50 ft. in area, on Main St., and will increase his stock and capacity to satisfy the demands of the public with the development of the country and city.

#### GRABAN & FLUMERFELT.

The business of this firm was established by Mr. Graban early in 1881,

and he took as his partner Mr. Flumerfelt in January, 1882.

They are importers of and dealers in boots and shoes and sewing machines. In the sewing machine line they sell the White, Raymond and Montreal Singer. During the past year this enterprising firm have disposed of over 100 machines, and for the coming year they will doubtless double that number.

## WESBROOK & FAIRCHILD.

This establishment is a branch of their house in Winnipeg, where they conduct the only wholesale agricultural implement institution in Manitoba.

Their business here was established in 1879, and is recognized as one of the leading houses of the kind in this city, and the fact that their trade during the past year amounted to about \$75,000, is sufficient evidence of the appreciation of the hardy farmers of this part of Manitoba of a properly

conducted and well regulated establishment.

For the coming season they have had consigned them for this point 15 complete Western Empire threshing outfits, 40 McCormick wire and cord binders, 60 warrior mowers, 20 reapers, 350 braker, cross, sulky and gang plows of the celebrated John Deere make, of which there has been about 3,000 distributed from the home office during the past year; their merits are fully known to every thorough farmer. Of the Van Brunt & Davis Co. seeders this branch will receive 50 also 50 Champion rakes, 75 to 100 Plumner waggons, and 100 sets of harrows. During the present winter 40 pair of sleighs have been sold, and three times that number could have been disposed of could they have been secured. Messrs. Wesbrook & Fairchild also do a large business in the sale of heavy mill machinery and engines, especially saw-mill outfits. They occupy at this place commodious warerooms 20 by 90 feet, and their entire business is superintended by Mr. R. S. Merrill, a practical implement man who is well known by the thrifty farmers, and whose guarantee of a piece of machinery, is sufficient evidence of its true worth.

In the development of this country this firm is acting a leading part and will increase their trade and capacity with the rapid growth of this new territory.

#### BISHOP & SHELTON.

Early in 1881 the Pioneer furniture house in Winnipeg established an extensive branch in this City, which has met with marked success, owing to the good manner in which it has been conducted and the strength and ability of the parent firm to keep it stocked with a large supply of elegant furniture as well as common necessary articles. The building occupied was erected by Messrs. Bishop & Shelton, especially for their own use, and is 30 x 70 feet in area, with two story, which also contains good sized work shops where they put together considerable of their furniture and fixtures from the knock down, which ensures a good solid sound article to those who deal with them.

Their business in this City gives employment to five hands, and is superintended by their trusted employee, Mr. John Dodimead, who has succeeded in making many friends for himself, and building up a large patronage for his firm, by his honorable dealings. Messrs. Bishop & Shelton are energetic men, and have lately made large additions to their institution in Winnipeg, and are always prepared to furnish large or small quantities of

the commodity dealt in by them at the most reasonable terms.

Their premises in this City are centrally located on Main St., near Saskatchewan Avenue,

#### JAS. H. ASHDOWN.

In 1879 this gentleman who is the hardware Prince of the North-West established a representative branch of his extensive establishment in Winnipeg in this city, under the personal management of his brother, Mr. Wm. Ashdown.

His business in the Portage has met with that success which has crowned every effort of this prosperous man, and the institution built up

holds a leading position in the city's commerce.

Mr. Ashdown, in this city, as elsewhere, has been obliged to largely increase his capacity from time to time to accommodate his growing patronage, until he now occupies in conducting his busines here two buildings, one 20 x 80 ft., two story, and a new brick structure lately erected, 25 x 70 ft. in area, with two flats, giving him in all about 7000 square feet of floor room which is well stocked with heavy and shelf hardware, bar iron, paints, oils, stoves, tin and copper ware &c. &c.

In his manufacturing department he produces all kinds of tin-ware, piece-ware and galvanized cornices, and in this part of his business he gives employment to seven skilled mechanics and in the sales department five

men are required to attend to the wants of patrons.

This establishment with its superior management in Mr. Wm. Ashdown and its source of supply from the wholesale department of Mr. J. H. Ashdown's extensive establishment in Winnipeg will remain a leading hardware house of Portage la Prairie.

#### LORNE LIVERY AND SALE STABLES.

These stables are located on King Street, and are undoubtedly the most extensive institution of their class west of Winnipeg. They have been in operation for several years, and although under different proprietors, the name of Ferriss has always been in the firm composition. Messrs. M. A. & A. H. Ferriss, the present proprietors, besides carrying on a livery and feed business, are heavy importers of horses from the East, and bring from there on an average two car loads a month, During 1881 over 500 horses were imported to this institution, and the rapid settlement of this country will compel a much heavier business for 1882.

These stables have accommodation for 50 horses, while the firm at all times keep a full supply of horses and every class of light vehicles for hire. Their business has proved a great boon to surveyors, and parties in search of lands, and to this class they have frequently rigs hired out for weeks at

a time.

#### RYAN'S BOOT AND SHOE STORE.

This establishment is the property of Mr. Thos. Ryan, who conducts a similar institution in Winnipeg. His house in the Portage was opened up in June 1881 and is under the management of Mr. A. J. Smale, who labors diligently to please and accommodate the public, and owing to the manner in which the business has been conducted and the fine selection of goods

carried, now holds the leading place in supplying foot wear for the citizens

of Portage la Prairie and those surrounding her.

Some idea of the magnitude of this house can be gained from the fact that the stock carried here is value for about \$7,000, and the sales since the opening day have averaged about \$2,000 per month. This establishment with a practical man as manager and Mr. Ryan's extensive institution in Winnipeg, which is the largest house of the kind in the North-West, behind it, cannot fail to retain a leading position among the mercantile houses of this city, and be able at all times to supply the public with boots and shoes, slippers and moccasins, and every article necessary to the dress and comfort of the foot, at prices which defy competition, and style and quality which cannot be surpassed. The premises are located on Main Street, nearly opposite the Lorne House.

#### PHILIP GAGNON.

This gentleman operates the only tonsorical establishment in the city, and owing to the thorough satisfaction he has given the public, no other similar institution has ever attempted to open up the same business, knowing well that Mr. Gagnon had the trade and would hold it. He now operates four chairs, and only employs barbers of experience who are sure to satisfy his many customers. He will increase his capacity to keep clean the faces and neat the heads of the public with the growth of the city.

#### D. ANDERSON.

This gentleman is agent for the Singer Manufacturing Company, New York. The head office of which and general distributing house for the North-West are located in Winnipeg, under the management of Mr. R. R. Gage. Mr. Anderson is superintendent of this branch of the Winnipeg establishment in this city, and has succeeded in placing many machines since June last when this auxiliary was opened up. His previous success warrants him in estimating his sales for the present year at 200 machines.

#### GEO. A. TREHERNE.

This gentleman established business in this city January 1st 1882, and owing to the fact that he carries a very select stock of cigars, tobaccos, pipes of every description, and smokers sundries, has succeeded in building up a good patronage which is fast increasing. Whenever a good cigar is wanted George's place is sure to be visited, and the patron always goes away satisfied he has purchased a good article. His place is centrally located on Main Street.



#### GRAND PACIFIC HOTEL.

This magnificient new house was constructed during the summer and fall of 1881, and opened by the present proprietors, Messrs. Kastner & Sheppard, in the month of January, 1882. It is conveniently located at the corner of Saskatchewan Avenue and Depot Streets, within a few minutes walk of the C. P. R. depot, and in close proximity to the business centre of the City. It is a fine new structure with a frontage of 50 feet on the former thoroughfare, and 90 feet on the latter. On the street floor are the dining room, capable of seating 60 guests, the offices, and a spacious billiard hall and bar. On the second floor are two luxuriously furnished parlors, and numerous bedrooms, while on the third floor is another parlor, and the balance devoted to dormitories. The house altogether is supplied with every modern convenience, is fitted up and furnished in every department with a view to comfort and luxury, and can accommodate from 75 to 100 guests.

The proprietors of this house are old hotel men from Ontario, know well how to secure the comfort of travellers, and with these and other advantages in their favor, will not fail to keep the Grand Pacific among the first hotels in the Canadian North-West. There house has already proved a great benefit to the travelling public, and has aided in making Portage la Prairie a pleasant place of sojourn for the traveling man.

## LORNE HOUSE.

This house is operated by Messrs Gower & Earl who secured possession of the same early in February 1882. They have repaired, re-painted and refitted the entire house, and have succeeded in bringing it up to that standard of perfection and cleanliness seldom met with in hotels in new countries, where supplies and help are hard to secure. The dinning room has the capacity of seating from 40 to 50 guests at once, is well arranged, the food the best the market affords and the servants careful and attentive. The sleeping compartments, 36 in number are cleanly kept, well ventilated, and present a cheerful reception to the weary traveler. There is also a large and cozy parlor on the second floor, furnished with brussels carpet, easy chairs, lounges, and piano, where a pleasent evening may be sent.

The bar is orderly conducted, and supplies the liquod wants of patrons with sparkling wines, mellow old brandies, and choice beverages of every kind. The billiard hall contains three tables which are carefully attended to. In conducting this house employment is given to twelve hands.

The Lorne House is located on Manitoba or Main St., in the very centre of the business portion of the town and presents superior advantages to

commercial men and the travelling public generally.

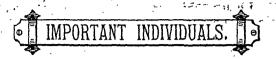
#### QUEEN'S HOTEL.

This fine hotel is the lineal successor of the old Ontario House, although the changes and additions that have been made on it during the last year have made it practically a new house. It is located on the corner of Main and Main Street, and has a frontage of 84 feet on the former, and 132 feet on the latter. It is substantially constructed with a view to comfort of guests, and sleeping accommodation for about 100 persons. It has offices, sitting room, kitchen and one of the finest billiard halls in Manitoba on the street floor, while the second and third story are devoted to parlors and dormitories, which are all commodious, roomy, well ventilated and comfortably furnished.

The present proprietor, Mr. J. J. White, has been in possession for three years, and has added much to the popularity of the bouse, so much so, that his space is altogether inadequate to his patronage. This defect he is about to remedy by building an extensive addition, which will give him a clear 100 feet of frontage on Main St., and accommodation for 100 more guests, which will make the Queen's one of the largest hotels in the Canadian

North-West.





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#### MICHAEL BLAKE.

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In this gentleman we have one of the old settlers of Portage la Prairie, who dates his arrival here back to 1872. For some time after his settlement in the Portage, Mr. Blake had the contract for carrying the mail between this city and Winnipeg. Afterwards he filled the place of "Mine Host" of the Portage Hotel, and still later he was proprietor of a steam flouring mill, which is still prospering under another ownership and management of late years Mr. Blake has not been engaged in any industrial pursuit, but has confined his efforts to real estate transactions on his own account, and like numerous other old settlers is now among the city's solid and opulent citizens.

We cannot class Mr. Blake with any particular branch of business, but as industrial recorders, our work on Portage la Prairie would be incomplete did we not notice one, who has been so long and so intimately connected with her industrial growth, and who is now among the most public spirited men of the city. He still clings to the Portage, and retains the fullest faith in her great future.

In farming operations Mr. Blake has assisted in showing the wondrous fertility of the country around this city, and during this season will farm

some 200 acres in the vicinity of the Portage.

#### C. H. HOUSE.

Although not now engaged in any mercantile pursuit he can nevertheless claim the honour of being the first merchant who conducted a regular store in Portage la Prairie, if we except the Hudson's Bay Company's, which preceded him a few months. In 1861 Mr. House conducted a general store on the spot where the Ontario Bank now stands, and the building which the Bank now occupies he built a few years later. Since 1872 he gave up mercantile business, and of late years has been engaged selling the valuable real estate, which he owned in and around this city. He still holds some valuable town property, among which is a portion of the island south of the town, all of which he now offers for sale on the most advantageous terms. It is not, however, as a real estate man, that we notice Mr. House, but as the pioneer independent trader of this district, and one who has accomplished much in building up the early trade of Portage la Prairie, and forming the neucleus of a village around the site of the present prosperous city.

#### W. A. PREST.

This gentleman, while he holds the responsible position of Town Clerk, is also connected with the business interests of Portage la Prairie, in the insurance and loan branches. In the former he represents the Canada Life Insurance Company, and the Royal, Citizen's, London and Lancashire, and Imperial Fire Companies, and in both fire and life branches he does quite an extensive business, which may be judged from the value of the policies he has issued during six months, reaching over \$60,000.

In loan business Mr Prest represents the Manitoba Mortgage and Investment Company, a corporation with \$2,500,000 capital and for the same he has placed in loans on real estate security during the last year over

\$50,000.

It will thus be seen that Mr. Prest, although an official of trust and great responsibility, is nevertheless one of the busy bees in the line of industry, and is in an indirect way doing much for the industrial development of this City and surrounding country.

#### FRED M. BROWN & CO.

This firm carry on a general real estate and auctioneer business, and date their advent in business in the Portage from December, 1st, 1881. Mr. Fred M. Brown, the managing partner, however, has been a resident of Manitoba for several years, and has had a good opportunity to post himself on the merits of every class of real estate within the province, while he has been resident in the city since November, 1880, and has proved one of her live business men.

The firm handle every class of real estate both on commission and on their own account, and make it a point to look carefully after the best interests of their patrons. In the auction business they are prepared to sell both real estate or moveable property, either in town or country, and in this line. Brown has had a number of years experience.

The firm's offices are located on Main Street, next to the Queen's Hotel.

#### ROBERT WATSON.

This gentleman has been a resident of the Portage for five years, and although not now carrying on any business in the city, he has been intimately connected with her industrial upbuilding. Five years ago he built the Marquette Mills, now operated by Mr. McDonald, and carried them on for three years. Since then he has been connected with many other industrial undertakings in and around the city, and during 1881 he contracted for and constructed four miles of the Portage, Westbourne and North-Western Railway. At present he is building a bridge across the slough to the island, which will prove a great public boon. For two years Mr. Watson has been a member of the city council, and his career altogether has been one of great local usefullness.

Lately Mr. Watson has gone pretty heavily into real estate business, only on his own account, however, and not as an agent. He now owns considerable valuable city property, and has for sale quite an amount of raw

and improved farm lands throughout the province.

# ROUTES TO AND FROM PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE.

The West-bound emigrant is a victim of no end of trouble, annoyance and delay, if he is unfortunate enough not to be posted as to the best route to take in this journey. Only the initiated know the schemes and dodges set on foot to mislead this class of travellers, and we therefore deem it our duty to our readers to supply some information regarding the routes be-

tween the East and Portage la Prairie.

In the summer season the west-bound traveler can leave Sarnia, Collingwood, or any of the ports on Lake Huron, and over the broad bosom of Lake Superior in a floating palace glide swiftly and pleasantly to Duluth where he can disembark and travel by the St. Paul & Duluth and St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba railways to St. Vincent, Minnesota, where a ride of seventy miles on the Canadian Pacific line will bring him to his destination, or he can go by water to Thunder Bay, and thence by rail direct to the Portage. These routes are simple, convenient and direct, but unfortunately they can only be adopted during the summer season, owing to closed navigation on the lakes during the winter months. The all railroad route by way of Chicago and St. Paul must therefore be adopted during winter, fall and early spring, and by those whose time is valuable it is the best at all seasons of the year.

The Eastern Canadian on his westward journey has several routes by which he can travel from different parts of the provinces of New Brunswick, Quebec and Ontario, on his way to Chicago, and it is not our intention in trying to guide him, to in any way disparage the advantages offered by any of these lines of travel. We feel bound, however, to select one route, and in so doing we have no difficulty in fixing upon the reliable old Grand Trunk Railway, and its connections, and we shall now give several potent

reasons for our preference.

In the first place the Grand Trunk and its connections form one unbroken chain of railroads from Halifax, Nova Scotia, in the extreme East to Chicago. As starting point may be selected at any of the leading seaports of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick or New England, or further West from any of the leading cities or towns of Quebec or Ontario. The arrangements for making connections are perfect in every instance, and by no other route is the traveler subjected to so little unnecessary delay.

In the second place the Grand Trunk is the only Canadian railway which runs into the great American Lakeside Metropolis on its own track,

so that it can lay its passengers safely down in that city without any assistance from American lines, or any change of cars in crossing the boundary.

In the third place it is the most direct route from Montreal, Toronto and all the leading cities in Eastern Canada to Chicago, and the company issue through tickets from the eastern shores of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, the cities of New England, the St. Lawrence ports of Quebec.

and the lakeside towns of Ontario to that city.

In the fourth place the accommodation afforded passengers on the Grand Trunk is equalled by few lines, and surpassed by none on the American continent. The company's passenger cars are simply comfort on wheels, and the fact, that they run on their lines the celebrated Pullman palace sleeping and dining cars, proves that they have reached the acme of comfort in railway travel. We might also mention that this railway by its connections with the Erie and New York Central Railways offers the shortest and quickest routé between New York and the West and North-West.

In freight arrangements the Grand Trunk offers superior advantages for the North-West. In addition to their numerous special trains, they run their weekly way freight for Manitoba, which receives goods at nearly 50 points in Eastern Canada, that are forwarded under bond from entering the United States to their destinations without delay, while their arrangements for forwarding the goods of emigrants are managed so as to prove a great boon to that class of travellers.

Further particulars regarding freights or passage will be freely supplied on application to Mr. Joseph Hickson, general manager, Mr. John Porteous, general freight agent, Montreal, Mr. John Earls, assistant general freight agent, Toronto, or Mr. J. J. McNally, the company's agent at Winnipeg, Man.

Once the North- Nest traveller reaches Chicago his worst troubles commence, unless a through passage is secured by the line named herein, as at Chicago he will find ticket brokers who will send him over at least half a .-dozen states and territories, and hundreds of miles out of his way. From Chicago to St. Paul there are three lines who offer feasible routes, and in selecting from that number we have no hesitation in fixing upon the Chicago, St. Paul and Minneapolis line of the Chicago and North-Western, and Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railway as the best in every respect. the first place it is the shortest and most direct line between the two cities, and secondly it passes through Madison, the Wisconsin capital, with choice of route by way of Milwaukee, and through Elroy, Eau Claire, and other large cities of the Badger State. Its passenger and sleeping cars are very palaces on wheels, and its equipment in every respect is unsurpassed by that of any road in America. Parties wishing to make use of this line of route should communicate with Mr. W. H. Stennett, General Passenger Agent, Chicago and North-Western Railway at Chicago, Illinois, and full information as to passenger or freight affairs from Eastern Canada to Manitoba will at once be supplied, another reason why the best all-rail route in either direction to or from Manitoba and the East by way of Elroy and Madison with choice of route in Milwaukee is because this is the only route between Minneapolis, St. Paul and Chicago that runs the celebrated Pullman palace sleeping coaches, which are specially provided with luxurious smoking rooms for the exclusive use of sleeping car passengers. No other routes between

Chicago and the North-West offers these comforts. Any information desired by travellers from Manitoba to Canada, or to San Francisco or British Columbia, will be cheerfully furnished on application to T. W. Teasdale, General Passenger Agent, Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Rail-

way, at St. Paul, Minn.

At St. Paul the traveller can step from the cars of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railway across the platform to those of the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba line, and in a twenty-four hours' ride reach the Manitoba capital, whence a three hours' trip on the new air line of the Canadian Pacific Railway will bring him to Portage la Prairie. The line of travel on the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway lies first through the beautiful lake district of Northern Minnesota, then along the upper valley of the Red River, through the richest farming lands in the United States, and on this line he will find that the comforts of travel do not grow less as he nears his future home in the Golden North-West. The cars of this line afford the greatest comfort, the arrangements for meals and refreshments on the journey are ample and very convenient, while delay is an objection which finds no place in its whole working.

At St. Vincent the traveller passes into his new Land of Promise and on to the Canadian Pacific Railway, and a few hours afterwards reaches his destination not tired and weary but refreshed and invigorated by the journey.

The head offices of the St. Paul, Minneapolis and Manitoba Railway Company are located at St. Paul, Minn., and its officers are Messrs. J. J. Hill, general superintendent; A. Manvel, assistant general superintendent; W. S. Alexander, general passenger and freight manager, and H. C. Davis, assistant general passenger agent, any of whom will be pleased to supply information regarding their lines and their connections either by mail or otherwise.

This route from first to last we have no hesitation in recommending to all who start for Manitoba, and the traveller by following it may save a

great amount of trouble, annoyance and delay.

#### CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY.

Stage lines, steamboat lines and other institutions, may be the means of establishing and building up villages to a certain magnitude, but it is a settled fact throughout the West, that real progress never commences in a town until a railway of some kind reaches it. Such was the case with Portage la Prairie, and its real growth has only commenced with the building of the Canada Pacific Railway into the town, while its sudden advance to city-like proportions was mainly due to the rapidity with which the present syndicate who are constructing that line, extended westward to Brandon during the summer of 1881, and their construction of the air line direct from Winnipeg during the fall and winter of the same year. It is therefore a fact that, while other influences and undertaking have, and still may render material aid in the building up of the city, the building to and beyond Portage la Prairie of the Canadian Pacific Railway, has been and must still be the main power in raising that city to the prominent position she is undoubtedly destined to occupy.

From St. Vincent northward, through Winnipeg to Portage Ia Prairie the main line of this railway now extends, while on the east it reaches Rat Portage, and in a westerly direction regular trains go to Brandon. By the end of June the gap between Rat Portage and Thunder Bay will be built, and trains thereafter will be regularly run from the shores of Lake Superior to the Prairie city. This summer the work of construction westward will also be pushed with an amount of energy seldom put into any work, and by the close of 1882 the whistle of the locomotive will be heard within two hundred miles of the base of the Rocky Mountains. The balance of the work of transcontinental construction will be pushed with equal rapidity, and in the year 1884 a through route to the Pacific coast completed.

It can thus be seen that Portage la Prairie is not to remain a roadside town on an indefinite line of railroad, but is destined to be a large prosperous city on the great main line of railroad between the Atlantic and Pacific ports of the Canadian Dominion. The rapid construction therefore, of the Canadian Pacific railway, means the rapid growth of Portage la Prairie, and the best interests of both must ever remain closely allied.

The head offices of the company are located at Winnipeg, and inquiries regarding business matters will meet with prompt attention from Geo, W. C. Van Horn, general manager, J. M. Eagan, Esq., Superintendent, or W. Harder, Esq. assistant traffic manager.

## PORTAGE, WESTBOURNE AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The conception and construction of this line is due entirely to residents of Manitoba, and the Portage itself is entitled to a share of the credit in projecting a line of railroad, which will accomplish so much for the development of the North-West, and the building up of the city itself.

By the charter granted to this Company, they have power to construct a line of railway from Portage la Prairie in a North-westerly direction to Prince Albert, and thence into the productive regions of the far North-West, and that the Company will take full advantage of the powers granted is evident from the activity which they are now displaying. Last year the grading of the line to Gladstone, a distance of 36 miles was completed, and at present the work of laying track and constructing further on, is going on apace, and it is the determination of the Company to have their trains running to the crossing of the Little Saskatchewan river, a distance of over 100 miles by September 1st 1882, while the further construction they will not allow to lag for a single hour.

By the terms of their charter this Company have a land grant of 6,400 acres for every mile of road they have constructed by a certain date, and as ther survey runs through one of the richest belts of land in the whole North West, the lands at their disposal will offer the very best attractions to the farming class of settlers. During the summer of the present year these lands will be placed upon the market, at prices that will materially aid in the settling up of the fertile North-West, and place homes and farms within the reach of the poor but enterprising emigrants who are now flocking into this land of promise.

Such is the influence this Company will have in settling up this vast country, while they will be one of the main powers in the industrial upbuilding of Portage la Prairie. The Company have decided to locate their head quarters in the city, and the construction of their machine shops, engine house, offices and other necessaries of a railway centre are now in course of construction. Their depot they have located on the outskirts of the city on the bank of the Assiniboine River, where they are also building wharfs, and other arrangements to make connections with the river traffic.

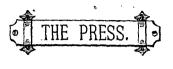
It is easy to see the immense advantage the location of the shops of this railway will be to Portage la Prairie. Within one year they will be the means of locating at least 300 workmen in and around the city, and within two years at least double that number. This will add at least 3,000 to her population within two years, while the impetus it will give to her industrial growth will be the greatest the city has received. The Portage, Westbourne & North-Western Railway, therefore, is one of the leading elements in making the city a railway centre and a busy hive of industry.

Duncan McArthur, Esq., manager of the Merchants Bank, Winnipeg, is President of the Company; the Hon. C. P. Bown, Minister of Public Works, Vice-President; and David Roger, Esq., Constructing Engineer.

#### PORTAGE, SOURIS AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

This line may safely be counted upon as one of those which will in the near future contribute much towards making the Portage a great railway centre. Its projected route is from the city in a south-westerly direction through a portion of Norfolk County, and the large Elliott settlement to the Souris Valley coal fields. It will traverse one of the richest agricultural regions of Southern Manitoba and assist in opening up the hidden wealth of the Souris Valley, while it will place a supply of fuel at the disposal of the people of Portage la Prairie, which must render valuable aid in raising the city to her destined position of a great manufacturing centre. The company is to a great extent composed of local men, who are deeply interested in the pushing of the work. Thomas Collins, Esq., Mayor of Portage la Prairie, being its President. Its lines are as yet only projected ones, but the time is but short until it will be a paying and valuable road, and one that will add much to the industrial wealth of the Portage.





#### MARQUETTE REVIEW AND PORTAGE TIMES.

This journal is the pioneer publication in Manitoba, west of Winnipeg, and has a history extending back to January, 1879, when it was first issued as a weekly by Mr. Thomas Collins, under the name of the Marquette Review. Its success was so great, that in August, 1881. the name of Fortage Times was added, and it was changed from weekly to semi-weekly, and as soon as the proprietors can secure more commodious, premises, they will commence a daily issue.

The Review and Times is independent in politics, and under the editorial management of Mr. Collins, assisted by Mr. G. E. Murphy as associate, and Mr. E. A. Blow as local editor, it has advanced into a leading place among the newspapers of the North-West. It has proved a power in furthering local interests, and its proprietor and manager now holds the

honorable office of Mayor of the City.

The mechanical arrangements of this establishment are first-class as well as extensive, comprising steam cylinder and job presses, capable of doing any class of letter-press work, and under the management of Mr. Thos. Brook, the job department compares favorably with that of any other institution in the Province. The offices are located on Main Street, next building to the Post Office, but will be moved in the coming fall into a new brick building, which is about to be erected on Saskatchewan Avenue.

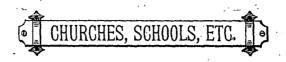
#### THE "TRIBUNE."

This journal was established on Sept. 1st, 1881, by the present proprietors Messrs. Cliffe & Co., and from its advent has proved of great value in advancing the interests of Portage la Prairie. It is an eight column folio sheet, gotten up in good style mechanically, and is issued weekly.

In politics the Tribune is Conservative, and is under the editorial management of Mr. E. Cliffe, a gentleman of twelve years experience in newspaper editorial work—three of which he spent as editor of the St. Catherine's Daily Review. Under his care therefore, neither the Tribune nor the Con-

servative cause in the Portage are likely to suffer.

The offices of the Tribune are located on Saskatchewan Avenue, and are well equipped, having been recently supplied with steam power and a full bindery outfit. In connection with the same the proprietors also carry on a general book and stationery store, and in that branch do quite a prosperous business.



While we are reviewing the industrial advantages of Portage la Prairie, we must not fail to take notice of her religious and educational arrangements. Such a course is a little out of our way as industrial recorders, but we believe that the moral atmosphere of a City serves as a pretty good index to the stability of its business arrangements, while the state of the moral barometer in this City proves that all the attention of her business men is not centered upon the things that perish.

The different denominations of christians who have organizations in this City are six in number, namely: the Church of England, the Presbyterian, the Roman Catholics, the Methodist Church of Canada, the Methodist

Episcopal Church, and the Baptists.

#### THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND

Is the oldest Church organization in the City, and dates back to the birth of the place in the year 1854. The Rev. Mr. Fortin is the present pastor, and the congregation are now worshipping in the Town Hall, they having recently disposed of their old Church, with the intention of erecting a new and larger one, at a cost of \$14,0000, the cash for which and town lands to the value of about \$4,000 they now possess. The number of persons now connected with this Church is over 250, and that number is rapidly increasing.

#### THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Is undoubtedly the most powerful in members in the Portage, its membership roll reaching 175, and the number of its adherants over 350. The Rev. A. Bell is the present pastor, and the congregation worship in their fine Church erected during 1881, which is already too small for the rapid growth of their numbers. The Church property altogether is valued for about \$16,000, and prosperity seems to attend the efforts of both pastor and people.

#### THE METHODIST CHURCH OF CANADA

This denomination has had a regular organization in the Portage since 1876, which is now a prosperous congregation with about 150 members,

and nearly 300 adherants. The Rev. M. J. Hewit is the present pastor, and his labors are being blest with great results. The value of the Church property is almost \$40,000, and during the coming summer the congregation are going to erect a fine Church at a cost of about \$30,000.

#### THE METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Is represented by an organization with the Rev. R. Shorts as pastor. The organization of the congregation dates only from November, 1881, and already its membership numbers about 40, and the number of adherants about 100. At present they hold services over the new stores of Mr. Ashdown, and preparations are being made for the erection of a Church building, and the congregation own lots on which to build, and funds for that purpose aggregating in all a value of at least \$4,000.

#### THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Is represented by a congregation of about 70 persons, and they have services conducted every second Sabbath by the Rev. Father Joyce. At present they own a building which is used partly for worship and partly as a day school, besides one acre of valuable town land, the whole amounting in value to about \$7,500. During the coming summer a more commodious Church building will in all probability be erected, and a Clergyman located as pastor.

#### THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

Have also an organization in the city, which is as yet but small in numbers but is steadily increasing. The exact number of members and adherents and the value of church property we are unable to give, but the organization although yet small is both healthy and vigorous, and promises to grow rapidly.

#### SUMMARY OF CHURCHES.

In summing up the figures in connection with these different churches we find that five out of the six churches have connected with them 1375 persons, so that for the six we can place the figures at about 1500, while the value of the church property of the five given, aggregates \$85,000. While therefore the churches are laying up treasure beyond the reach of moth and rust, it is pleasing to find that the Master whom they follow has been pleased to bless them in a temporal way. Nothing can be more detrimental to the spread of the gospel than a system which keeps its preachers in the position of church paupers, and we are pleased to see that the church-going people of Portage la Prairie have the will to keep their pastors beyond the reach of penury.

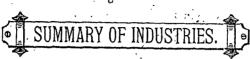
#### EDUCATIONAL, ETC.

 In a city which has grown so rapidly as Portage la Prairie it is but natural that the school arrangements would be somewhat deficient. This deficiency however, exists only in school accommodation, and as the funds at the command of the town beard of education are ample to remedy this evil, we may safely assume that the deficiency is only temporary.

The present town school is located on Portage Street, and has now about 250 pupils in regular attendance. Its supervision is in the hands of Principal O'Connor, while Mr. Montgomery is first, and Mrs. Varcoe second assistant teacher. The buildings are altogether inadequate to the present demand, and the coming summer will see the erection of either a fine town school or a system of ward schools, which will give full scope for the education of the youth of the city.

In addition to this school the Catholic church has one under their control, which has an average attendance of about 20 pupils and is taught by Miss Kay.

The social arrangements of the Portage are also beginning to take form, and we find a growing taste for elevating and retining entertainments among her residents. The fine City Hall on Saskatchewan Avenue gives full scope for the production of these, and we find that numerous musical, histrionic and dramatic entertainments have been produced there and liberally patronized by the citizens. First among these we shall mention the fine dramatic troupe of Mr. Frederick Bryton of Winnipeg, who usually spends about one week in six in the Portage, and never fails to attract crowded and appreciative audiences. The visits of this troupe during the winter of 1881-2, have been highly appreciated by the local lovers of the drama, and have awakened quite a dramatic taste, and their success to no small extent may be attributed to the arrangements of Mr. Samuel Alexander, the business manager. Besides the Bryton troupe Miss Florence Gillette, the well-known elocutionist, and several other celebrities have made successful visits in the city of late.



In summing up the industries of Portage la Prairie we find as a result that 148 business institutions of every description are now in full blast within the city limits. Of this 44 are banks, real estate offices, offices of professional men, and so forth. Hotels, livery stables and that class number 14; about 10 more it is difficult to classify under any head but that of sundries; while the mercantile and manufacturing interests are represented by 80 different concerns, large and small. Of this gross number of 148, some 80 have sprung into existence during the last twelve months, and about 50 during the last six months. A very large proportion of this great increase has been in connection with real estate, and other branches intimately connected with the same. Still a very extraordinary increase has been made to the manufacturing and mercantile interests, which includes several institutions of considerable magnitude.

In going into figures in detail on the business of the Portage, we shall follow the order that we have adopted in our sketches and commence with

the financial department.

There are at present three banks doing business in the city, one a chartered bank, whose capital is \$3,000,000, and two private banking concerns, whose united responsibility we can safely place at \$300,000 and be under actual facts. In addition to these we have five loan and investment' associations who have agencies here, and the united capital of these five corporations is somewhat over\$3,000,000, while the funds they have invested through their agencies in this city is considerably over \$350,000. ther supplement in the way of financial resources, the city has nine different firms who are agents for private capitalists, seeking investments in and around the Portage. Some of these are but recently established here, while others have been doing business for a considerable length of time. not get at exact figures in connection with the loans so made, but a careful approximation places the figures between \$120,000 and \$140,00. business done in loans by kerbstone bankers and other small capitalists, forms the only remaining items of finance, and the business done in that line we shall not attempt to approximate or even guess at. placed above are ample proof that so far as financial resources are concerned the Portage is well supplied for the work of developing her own and the industries of the country tributary to her.

From the financial let us step into the manufacturing department of The institutions which come under this head are 29 in. the city's business. number, and they give employment altogether to some 334 hands, male and The value of goods manufactured by these institutions during the year ending January 31st, 1882, was \$624,000. This sum includes a proportion of the business of several large concerns, which are both mercantile and manufacturing, and it must also be borne in mind, that of these 29 institutions 11 have sprung into existence during the last twelve months, and '8 during the last six months. The magnitude of some of the manufacturing concerns of the city may be judged from the following: Only one house manufactured over \$100,000 worth of goods during the year ending January 31st, 1882; three were over \$50,000, and six over \$25,000. We wish also to make our readers understand, that these figures do not include contracts for building, railroad construction, and so forth. These branches give employment during the greater portion of the year to nearly 300 hands, while the value of business done in that line during the past year was over \$400,-000, which if added to the value of manufactures proper would make a total of considerably over \$1,000,000, while it would raise the number of hands employed to over 600.

We shall now review the mercantile interests of the city, and reduce them as near as possible to absolute figures. The number of mercantile concerns in the city is 58, and the number of clerks and other hands they employ is 137. Of the 58 about 30 have sprung into existence during the past year, some 18 the last six months, and nearly half of the last number during three months. Some eight of these concerns do more or less of a wholesale business, but none of them keep travellers on the road, with the exception of houses in the farm machinery business. The value of the mercantile transactions for the year ending January 31st, 1882, was \$1,174,200. Only one mercantile house did a business of over \$100,000, and the one in question reached \$150,000; three were over \$75,000, and seven over \$50,000. The area of the trade operations of these mercantile houses extends for nearly 50 miles around the city, and in a westerly direction in some instances over three times that distance. It is a singular fact that there are no bank-ruptcies, and there is not a merchant in the city, we believe, who is not doing a

profitable business at the present time.

The institutions which we class under the head of Miscellaneous, such as hotels, livery stables, dray lines and so forth represent quite a respectable volume of business, which we would be safe in approximating at \$250,000, while they give employment to nearly 60 hands, male and female. Outside, therefore of the financial real estate and professional portion of the city's, business over 800 hands are employed, while the gross volume of business done during the year ending January 31st, 1881, represents an aggregate value of nearly \$2,500,000.

When we take the above sum in connection with the estimated population of Portage la Prairie at the present time it shows only about \$70 per capita, but if we take the average between the lowest and highest point of population it gives over \$150 per capita, a sum that shows an exceptionally healthy state of industrial affairs. We must also bear in mind that the real estate transactions of the city for the last year represent a fabulous sum,

and quite a large proportion of the population of the city are altogether interested in that branch of business, and are in no way dependent upon in-

dustrial pursuits.

Favourable as this summary of the industries of Portage la Prairie may appear, it is but a poor index to the city's industrial importance, and to enable the reader to more fully comprehend the same we shall notice some of the manufacturing and other institutions now in course of construction, or about to be established. These we shall take under the head of Industrial Prospect.

## Industrial Prospects.

Nothing gives a better indication of a City's future prosperity, than the certainty of the location of extensive manufacturing institutions in the near future, and if we are to judge from such an index, the prospects of Portage

la Prairie are particularly bright at present.

We shall mention some of the industries to be located during the present year only, and from these the reader can form his own opinion. we have a large roller mill now in course of construction near the Canadian Pacific Railway depot, which will be finished by September. This mill will have a capacity of 200 barrels of flour a day, will give employment to at least 25 hands, and will cost over \$60,000. As a supplement to this Mr. W. M. Smith, the city's pioneer steam miller will erect during the summer another roller mill, with a capacity of 120 barrels a day, which will employ about 15 hands, and will cost over \$25,000. Another valuable addition to the city's industries will be the paper mill of Mr. McIlvanie, which will be the pioneer institution of its class in the North-West. Then we have the foundry and machine shop to be constructed by Mr. Hay, which will be a very valuable institution locally, and lastly we have the engine house, machine shops, and so forth, of the Portage. Westbourne and North-Western Railway, which will locate at least 200 men in the city during the present year, and over double that number before the close of 1883. There are also othersmaller institutions which we shall not enumerate. These prospective industries to be floated during the present year, will increase the city's labor demand by at least 400 hands, and will add not less than 1500 to her popula-Other influences will assist in swelling these figures, and we are under the mark when we predict for the Portage a population of 6,000 by the first of January, 1883, while her volume of business for the year 1882 will not be less than \$7,000,000. Nor will her apid progress end here, for her location, her other advantages, and the enterprise of her citizens will raise her by the close of the present decade to a city of 30,000 people, with a volume of business which will proclaim her one of the great industrial centres of the North-West.

## INDEX.

MANITOBA AND THE NORTH-WEST 1 to 2	Bishop & Shelton
Portage La Prairie	Cameron, D
FINANCE, REAL ESTATE AND INSUR-	Campbell & Fulton 38
ANCE	Carrey & Co 43
ALLOWAY, CHAMPION & MOWAT 14	Craig, George41
Bellamy & Harley 15	Garland & Co
Black W. R	Gagnon, Philip47
Bourne & Co 19	Graban & Flumerfelt
Boultbee John	Haggert Bros
Boyle & Washington	Harris, Sons A. & Co
	Hondonon T & W
Campbell, Hay & Boddy	Henderson, J. & W
Caughill & Ferris 23	Hudsons Bay Co
Colter, Jolly & Co	Laurens, W. & A
Conacher & Baker	Logan & Henderson 40
Conacher & Baker	Lorne Livery and Sale Stables 46
Finley & Graham 23	Marquette Drug Store 34
Foote & Woodside 20	Medical Hall42
Georgen P. Vance 17	Meek, B
Gordon, Adamson & Co	Miller, T. & W
Hagarty Dr. D. M. 19	Moul, Fred. S
Hay & McKenzie	McNab, J. C
Hog John	Newman & Finnerty
Harvey & McDonald 24	Patterson, H. S
Kennedy & Garland	Pewtress, J. B
Lineatt & Robinson \ 15	Primare le Co
Lipsett & Robinson 15 Little J. A. 20	Purvis & Co
Matana le Ca D D	Richardson & White
McLean & Co., P. D 17	Rowe, J. F
McLean Farquhar	Rysn's Boot & Shoe House 46
McKinnon & Graham 21	Taylor & Eadie 34
Ogletree & Smith 24	Thomson Bros
Ontario Bank	Treherne, Geo. A
Smith W. M 21	Wesbrook & Fairchild 45
Strange & Mowat 18	Woodside, H. J
Stevens & Ferriss 14	Young, W. R 39
Manufacturing Interests 25 to 31.	Hotels, 48 and 49.
	HOTELS, 40 AND 49.
Goldie, A. & Co 28	Grand Pacific
Hackett, John 31	Lorne House
Hill, R. B 26	Queens Hotel49
Hossack & McKenzie 28	TIEDODELIM TUDETTUTELE EO LAND ET
Johnson, J., L 31	IMPORTANT INDIVIDUALS, 50 AND 51.
Lyne & Banks	Blake, Michael
Mather, J. & T. J	Brown, Fred. M. & Co
McDonald, Edward	House Chas. M
McIlvanie, Samuel	Prest, W. A 51
McKenzie & Campbell 29	Watson, Robt 51
Mills, Wm. J	1'
Morton, Edmund	INOUTES TO AND FROM FURTAGE DA
Pockett, Samuel	Prairie, 52 to 56.
Portage Brick Yards 30	Canada Pacific 54
Stalker & Hutchings 31	Canada Pacific
Straub, V	Portage, Souris, & S. W. R. R 56
Watson, John 30	10246,00416, 6 0. 11. 11. 11
Young, J. P	THE PRESS, 57.
	Marquette Review and Portage Times. 57
Mercantile Interests 32 to 47.	The Tribune
Anderson, D 47	The Tribune 57
Andrew, James	1 0 0 0 0
	CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, &c., 58 & 59.
Ashdawn Ise H	CHURCHES, SCHOOLS, &c., 58 & 59.
Ashdown, Jas. H	SUMMARY OF INDUSTRIES, 61 TO 63. INDUSTRIAL PROSPECTS, 63.

 $i_{i_i}$ 

